

FORESTRY

DEC 15 1944

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

OREGON EDITION



PHOTO CHAS. J. BELDEN, PITCHFORK, WYO.

THE NATIONAL LIVESTOCK MONTHLY

JANUARY 1944

FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION, DENVER, JAN. 13-15

Thanks A Million **For Ten Million**

The DENVER LIVESTOCK MARKET is happy to announce that during 1943 TEN MILLION head of livestock were handled through the DENVER and OGDEN Stockyards and at the nine feed yards operated by our organization in Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming and Nevada. We express our appreciation to the many thousands of western livestock growers who have made this possible.

DENVER received during the year 45,000 CARLOADS of livestock and shipped 26,000 CARLOADS. OGDEN received 19,850 CARLOADS and shipped 18,000 CARLOADS. Our nine feed yards received and forwarded 32,700 CARLOADS.

This livestock arrived all hours of the day and night EVERY day. It was difficult to maintain sufficient labor to handle the animals promptly and efficiently, as in normal times, but THEY WERE SUCCESSFULLY HANDLED, and will supply a large portion of the iron, phosphorus, proteins, and other food elements necessary in the "Victory Diets" of our armed forces and civilians.

Let past performances guide your future actions and remember that DENVER and OGDEN are good places to sell your livestock. NINE GOOD POINTS to stop for feed, water and rest are:

Green River, Wyoming
Rawlins, Wyoming

Las Vegas, Nevada
Caliente, Nevada

Idaho Falls, Idaho
Pocatello, Idaho

Huntington, Oregon
La Grande, Oregon
The Dalles, Oregon

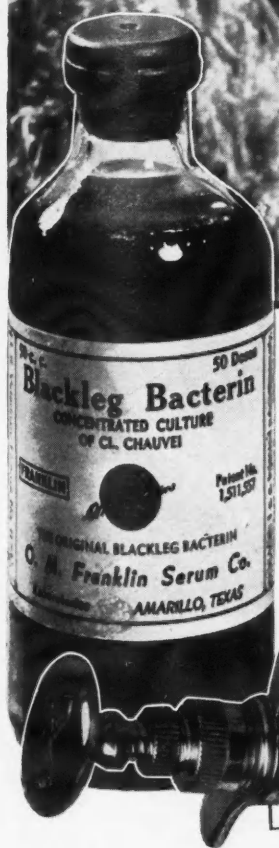
Handlers of TEN MILLION head annually
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FOR A PROSPEROUS 1944!**

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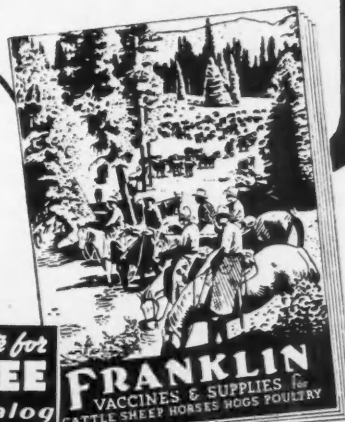
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EVERY day America's eight million fighting men consume almost five million dollars' worth of food — nearly two million dollars a meal.

And that's in addition to what goes to our fighting allies.

On top of that, America's 35 million families, working harder and eating more, must have their meals.

That gives you some idea of the job America's farmers are doing.

This food is part of the wartime load the railroads are hauling. Together with war equipment, munitions and raw materials it adds up to 1 1/3 million tons of freight to be moved a mile every

minute of the day and night.

To keep it all on the go requires that a loaded freight train start on its way every four seconds.

This is a load that no other transportation system in history has been asked to shoulder. It is being carried with little more equipment than before the war. And as with farmers, thousands of skilled railroad workers have gone to the battle fronts.

So far, with the fine cooperation of shippers and receivers, the railroads have carried the load.

And they are determined to keep on backing to the limit the men who are fighting to protect our free American way of self-reliance, enterprise and initiative.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS



LETTERS

SATISFIED SUBSCRIBER

The PRODUCER is doing a good job for the stockmen. Up here calves cost us \$14 to \$15; corn is worth \$1.01; hay \$20 to \$30 a ton. Feeders are not very well satisfied with this government tinkering, so they are buying lower quality stock and are not feeding as heavily.—OSCAR G. SABIN, Faribault County, Minn.

A FRANK OPINION

Had a fair season in our part of Montana this time. Stock have done fine so far this winter as we have had no zero weather to shrink them. Our government is messing up the cow business aplenty.—L. T. CARLAT, Powder River County, Mont.

CALIFORNIA SUNSHINE

We haven't had much storm so far—cold nights, but generally pleasant in the daytime.—FRANK STUDLEY, Modoc County, Cal.

GOOD WEATHER

We have had good weather in this part of the state this fall.—T. F. LAWLER, McKenzie County, N. D.

I have sold my cattle and ranches, but as long as I live I expect to take the PRODUCER.—JACK P. MATHES, Rio Blanco County, Colo.

We think your paper a good, constructive publication for the producer.—C. E. DALY, McPherson County, Neb.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

OREGON EDITION

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AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Protein Concentrates

A YEAR AGO, AT THE TIME OF sudden expansion in the number of dairy cows and the flocks of chickens and turkeys, coincident with the program for sharp expansion in hog numbers, all branches of the livestock industry suddenly found it very difficult to secure the needed supplies of protein concentrates for the usual winter operations. There were no particular grounds for complaint at that time. The mixed feed dealers had simply anticipated this great increase in the demand for their product and had contracted large quantities of proteins ahead. This made it difficult and in many instances impossible for range livestock producers to lay in the normal winter supplies for protection against severe winter storms and properly to develop and protect the growing young animals and the older breeding herds. The acute shortage continued until the summer grazing season lessened the pressure, and at that time the Commodity Credit Corporation undertook a study of the whole situation, with a view to doing what could be done to avoid a repetition of the mistakes made last year and to spreading more equitably the available supply of such protein concentrates.

It is extremely unfortunate that it has taken the Commodity Credit Corporation until now to come out with anything like a definite program. In this instance it would seem that some way should have been found to cut the usual government red tape. The situation has been further aggravated by the shortage of corn, or rather by the fact that with inequitable price ceilings and a favorable corn-hog ratio it has been difficult, if not impossible, to secure corn in many areas which needed either such feed or an increased quantity of protein concentrates on which to operate.

We realize that the Commodity Credit Corporation has had a most difficult problem to solve. Admittedly, in relation to livestock numbers the supply of both feed grains and concentrates is inadequate. The organization has done well in moving relief supplies into areas where great emergencies have suddenly arisen, but this is not a satisfactory solution of the matter. If the available supplies were distributed in reasonably equitable fashion there would not be so many emergencies to meet.

Today, despite helpful action by the Commodity Credit Corporation in moving limited emergency supplies into areas where the shortage is acute, the western livestock industry is facing a critical situation. In the case of cattle, numbers are still increasing; in the case of sheep, there have been some reductions in numbers from the recent record peak. If

we were to have a really severe winter, with many roads made impassable, there would be serious livestock loss because of feed shortages. It is to be regretted that the program which the Commodity Credit Corporation is now about to announce after extended conferences with feed manufacturers and representatives of the livestock industry should not have been announced three or four months ago. Such action would have been most helpful in meeting the present situation. It would have enabled both sellers and buyers to get organized so that shipments could have been made more promptly into the far western territory as soon as the product was available.

It is to be hoped that now that the program is finally in its last stages, there will be an immediate effort to make up for lost time and to move as much product into the West as possible before winter storms close many of the roads and there have been serious losses of livestock.

Inflation and Subsidies

THE AVERAGE READER HAS every right today to be very much confused as to what all the turmoil in Washington is about, relative to inflation and subsidies. Both sides are playing politics, and one statement you read may be an honest analysis of the situation as the writer sees it and the next one may be influenced by a desire to provide campaign material for the election which is just in the offing.

The proponents of subsidies as a means to control inflation are certainly guilty of misrepresenting to the public the result that will follow if their program is not adopted. For instance, a

speaker for one of the national labor unions testified before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee that if subsidies were discontinued the cost of living would double within 30 days and treble within 90 days. Such wild statements defeat their own purpose. No one is simple-minded enough to believe them. Chester Bowles, administrator of the Office of Price Administration, himself stated on the stand later in the same hearing that many of the statements made were wide of the mark and that the discontinuance of the subsidy program would result only in a moderate advance in the cost of living. He, of course, knew that the OPA is still charged with the responsibility of controlling prices and that the War Labor Board still has the authority to prevent increased wages unless justified under the rules already established for wage control.

So the question before the country today is not subsidies versus uncontrolled inflation at all. It is, rather, whether subsidies themselves may not be just as inflationary as the moderate price advances which, under war conditions, seem inevitable despite present control measures and whether the matter of production of needed agricultural crops has not been too much disregarded in the scramble for putting over pet ideas as to policies to be followed. After all, there is no great satisfaction to a consumer to be assured that the price is under control if the product is not available in sufficient quantity to meet even a rationed wartime demand.

Another major misconception skillfully propagated by those who are in favor of subsidies, without regard to their inflationary effect in increasing the public debt and without regard to the possible deterrent upon production, is that all those who oppose subsidies are doing so with the selfish hope that it will pave the way for further substantial increases in the price of their own commodity. Speaking for the cattle producers, we can say emphatically that this is not true. Wholesale beef ceilings were established on December 16, 1942. Since that time the organized livestock industry has made no effort whatsoever to increase those ceilings, and no such effort is now in progress, despite the fact that in the year that has elapsed there have been two increases in the ceiling price on corn and major increases in the cost of other coarse grain feeds, protein concentrates, hay, labor, and practically every other item that goes into the production and feeding of livestock. It is realized that these advancing costs are partially responsible for the failure to produce adequate supplies of beef at a time when we have the greatest number of cattle ever recorded in this country. The administration will wake up some day soon and

November Record Meat Month

A press report of Dec. 9 states that packers under federal inspection produced in November the greatest tonnage of meat in history. The 1,289,603 cattle butchered exceeded slaughter figures for the previous year by 271,564; calves butchered numbered 624,741 head, an increase of 123,966 over last year; number of hogs butchered stood at 6,971,752 as against 5,022,659 last year; and total sheep and lamb slaughter for the month was 2,369,955, compared with 2,126,042 in November of last year. Hog and sheep totals for the 11 months established new highs, but cattle and calves for the period showed a decline over the corresponding 11 months of a year ago.

realize in this field the importance of production as suggested, but the livestock industry has gone along in good faith and attempted to operate as best it could under the ceilings established a year ago.

The attempt has been made also to indicate that the subsidies are needed to promote production. Various witnesses at the hearing referred to above, who favored the consumer subsidies, tried to indicate that their main purpose was to promote production. The real fight is not over subsidies to promote production. It is over subsidies to the consumer for the single purpose of holding down retail prices which most agricultural leaders agree will be a deterrent rather than an aid to production.

Only in a few instances, where peculiar conditions prevail, can subsidies to promote production be justifiable.

We are opposed to the indiscriminate use of subsidies because we think they are not economically sound; that they are themselves inflationary; that they are, and will continue to be, so long as applied to meat products, a deterrent to the production that is so essential to the war effort; that we do not believe consumers generally want Uncle Sam to pay part of the fair cost of their grocery bill at a time when national income is at an all-time peak; that by deferring the payment of part of the grocery bill through the medium of adding it to the national debt, we are, in effect, asking the boys in the armed services to shoulder this cost when they return home.

Westbound Meat Rates

DURING THE SUMMER SEVERAL complaints were filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission urging a reduction in westbound meat rates. Admittedly, a most inopportune time to open up a major rate case, the record now shows that two main factors are responsible for this action: First, the desire of midwestern packers, largely

pork packers, to secure a more advantageous outlet on the Pacific Coast for pork products, and, second, the desire, quite natural of itself, on the part of various stockyards companies to increase their business by handling through their yards, in preparation for slaughter, many thousands of the hogs which under the present rate situation now move to the Pacific Coast on the hoof. The cattle interest in the matter is largely in the nature of a tail to the hog kite, but the matter having been gone into, it was not possible for the cattle interests to remain idle and permit a rate adjustment which would cost cattle producers from the entire territory, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico westward, thousands upon thousands of dollars annually.

A voluminous record was made at hearings at Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Portland. That record shows that, so far as cattle are concerned, there is substantial competition by West Coast buyers in the territory mentioned above and even, at times, going east of the states mentioned into western Nebraska. Several of the witnesses who testified in behalf of the rate reduction, assuming that such reduction would increase competition in the states adjacent to the Missouri River, by making it possible for local packers to compete with the West Coast buyers, freely admitted that the West Coast competition was beneficial in raising prices in those areas. At the same time, the assumption was made that this West Coast competition would be continued and with the added competition of local packer buyers livestock prices would be further enhanced. This line of argument completely ignores the fact that to whatever extent the rates are reduced and the volume of dressed meats shipped westward increased thereby, to the same extent necessarily the competition of the West Coast buyers is eliminated.

It has been claimed by proponents of the reduction that the present situation eastbound is proof of the fact that packinghouses in eastern territory have not

been eliminated by an eastbound rate basis which permits movement either on the hoof or in the carcass, as is now sought for movement west; but exhibits introduced in the case clearly show that there has been a substantial reduction in the number of packinghouses in eastern territory. There can be no doubt that, if westbound rates were reduced as desired, there would necessarily follow a substantial reduction in the volume of slaughter on the Pacific Coast, and this would inevitably mean a reduction in the number of plants operating there and in the competition which those plants create.

For this reason alone the reduction sought should be opposed for the benefit of the livestock industry in general. Unfortunately, war developments have tended to give the four big packers, plus a limited number of the larger independents, a stronger hold upon the packing business than has been had since the "big five" first came into power many years ago. Many small plants have been forced to close due to quota restrictions, price inequalities, labor shortages, etc. All efforts should be made now to preserve the competition that still exists rather than to lessen it.

In addition to the interests named above as original complainants, various producer groups particularly in Nebraska, Kansas, and other nearby Corn Belt states, supported the complainants. The opposition consisted of the Pacific Coast and intermountain packers, the railroads, the Cudahy Packing Company (the only one of the "big four" taking part), the American National Live Stock Association, supported by producers generally from the territory above named as being vitally interested in opposition to the rate reduction.

In the previous case, decided in 1933, the Interstate Commerce Commission found that there was no support for the claim that reduction in the westbound meat rates would result in higher livestock prices in the midwestern markets. In the language of the commission, we quote: "We are not convinced that granting the prayers of those complainants would result in increased livestock prices at the midwestern markets." No new testimony has been offered that would indicate any substantial change in this situation.

It is not likely that a final decision will be reached until well along in 1944. The testimony offered was based entirely upon pre-war conditions. The abnormal conditions incident to the war are not a factor. It is our firm belief that the livestock interests in general will best be served by the Interstate Commerce Commission again finding as it did in the previous case; that such finding will prevent serious loss to many western producers and be without detriment, as the commission previously found, even to those producers located in territory immediately adjacent to the Missouri River.

This Card Will Reserve a Room for You During the Convention of the American National Live Stock Association in Denver Jan. 13-15

"Ike" Walton,
Chairman, Reservation Committee,
1662 Broadway, Denver, Colo.
Dear Mr. Walton:

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Please reserve rooms at the Hotel
.....single
at the rate of \$.....per day. Will arrive in Denver January.....
and will want to occupy room until January.....
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CONVENTION IN JANUARY

JUST 45 YEARS AGO, ON JAN. 25, 1898, close to 1,000 delegates came from every state west of the Missouri as well as some of the eastern states, to attend a meeting of the National Stock Growers' Association at Denver, Colo. An account of the activities of that convention includes a feast which listed such an abundance of victuals as five buffalo, four elk, two bears, 15 antelope, 10 beeves, 30 sheep, and 200 opossums. A battery of 18 cooks tended the barbecue, and the menu was amplified by such items as 15,000 loaves of bread, 500 pounds of coffee, 10,000 pickles, and 35 barrels of yams.

Having looked thus momentarily backward, we now look forward to another annual convention—the forty-seventh—to be held in Denver again. There will be more than a little difference between the conference of yesterday and the one opening January 13 for the consideration of numerous and vital problems that beset the industry in this war year. Because of the difficulties of transportation and accommodations in general, incurred in mapping a wartime convention, the necessity for making the most of this annual meeting becomes particularly evident.

The problems facing stockmen are now not only those induced by the war but also those that may be reasonably anticipated and must be adequately planned for in the peacetime to come. It is hoped that each state in the American National territory will endeavor to have representation at the convention.

The most pressing immediate cause for concern is that of beef production. The first of three round-table discussions that will be featured will be led by Albert Mitchell, Albert, N. M., on the subject, cattle numbers and feed supplies. This will include an exposition of the present feed situation, its relation to the numbers of cattle now getting out of line, and the dangers that exist in these conditions. Government measures and regulations, effecuated without regard for the fact that cattle growing is an operation requiring long and careful planning and without respect for the turmoil produced thereby, seem to be what might be expected. The cattlemen, however, cannot afford to disregard the effect these actions have on the industry, both for the present and in their far-reaching influence for the future, which will bring ever-growing and increasingly serious beef shortages for 1944, despite the fact that there exists at this time the greatest number of cattle recorded in the history of our nation.

Another round-table discussion will deal with the ranch labor situation, with William Wright, Deeth, Nev., leading. The condition of the labor supply as it affects the cattle industry is an important one. The situation has been somewhat alleviated in the past few months by the use of some foreign labor. some

prison camp help, and judicious utilization of every possible production short-cut. Nevada, particularly, has employed Mexican contract labor, and the contemplated examination of the labor question is expected to demonstrate the need for using more and more extensively the available extra sources of labor supply because of the constant drain on manpower as occasioned by Selective Service needs.

Discussion on interstate livestock and sanitary regulations will be guided by Alfred M. Collins, Crestone, Colo. Since there is no uniformity among these at the present time, the objective of cattlemen will be the establishment of uniform regulations to govern in all the states.

Harry A. Reed, chief of the Live Stock and Meats Board, War Food Administration, will speak on "Government Meat Procurement," a point of vital interest to cattlemen generally, at this time. An address by William Diesing, vice-president of Cudahy Packing Company, will bear the title "Wartime Problems of the Packing Industry," while another speaker, as yet unannounced, will take for his subject subsidies and inflation. It is agreed that even though the administration should lose its present fight on subsidies, they still remain a deterrent to maximum output of beef and form a situation demanding continued watchfulness on the part of the cattlemen.

Cattle prices will come in for a good share of the cattle producers' attention. It is widely recognized that the OPA claim for the subsidy-rollback program, that it has been instituted for the benefit of producers, is untrue; for the cattle industry, OPA's aim, though de-

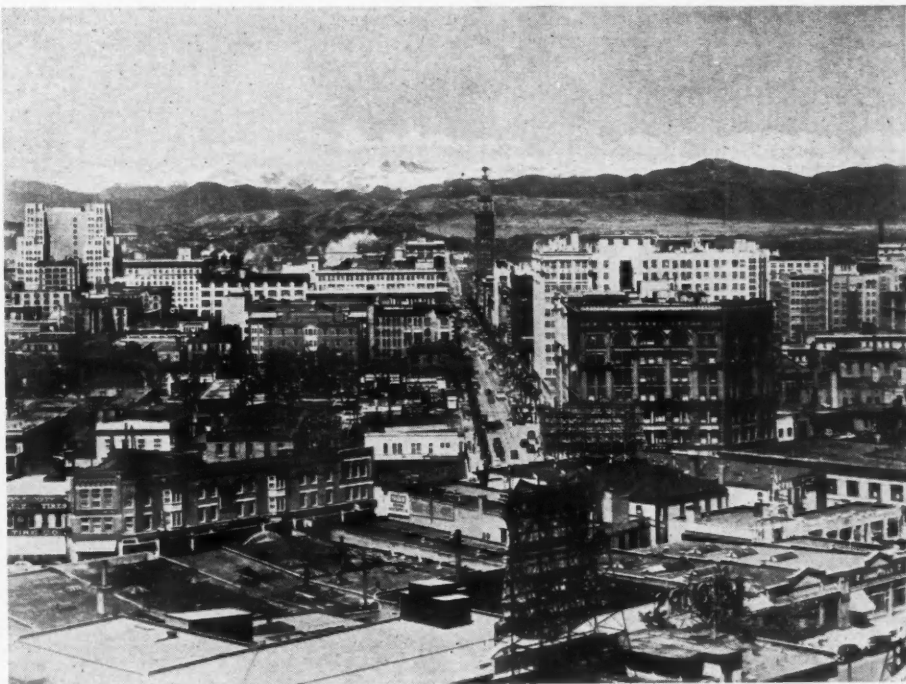
nied, has been to depress cattle prices. We have seen recent sharp increases in labor costs, a raise in the corn price ceiling, and increases in the price of protein concentrates. In line for consideration with these problems will be also those of disturbed marketing conditions in general and livestock values.

Also among topics to be treated will be the matter of public lands, the continued acquisition of privately owned lands by government agencies and by executive order for national parks and monuments, and the fact that the entire tax structure in many sections is involved. It is estimated that the United States now owns, or will soon own, about a fifth of the total land area of the country.

History shows every indication of proving once again that when the war is ended many nations will seek to protect themselves and take advantage of any opportunities in international trade that may offer themselves—this, the contentions of the free-trade boosters to the contrary. It would be futile, and even foolish, to fail to plan practical means of coping with these situations when they do arise. Stockmen must be prepared, too, to battle any efforts that might again crop up for the importation of live or dressed meats from countries where foot-and-mouth disease is prevalent, a practice which, if permitted, would be disastrous in its effect on every phase of the industry.

A. A. Smith, a second vice-president of the association, will deliver greetings to the conferees and Loren Bamert, Lone, Calif., president of the California Cattlemen's Association, will respond to the welcome.

Saturday, Jan. 15, closing day of the convention, also marks the opening of Denver's National Western Stock Show.



An unusual view of Denver, once again the nation's leading cow-town, Jan. 13-15.

BOICE CORRECTS CLAPPER

FRANK S. BOICE, SONOITA, ARIZ., president of the American National Live Stock Association, on November 27 wrote to Raymond Clapper, well known columnist, as follows:

"My attention has been called to your syndicated article of November 17 in which you write of the attitude of cattlemen toward inflation and price control. I am amazed that an article of that kind could have been written by you. Being conscious of your very fine reputation for fairness and integrity, I refuse to believe that you are deliberately deceiving your reading public; I must assume that you wrote the article without having the facts before you. I believe you have been unfair and unjust to cattlemen, and in the belief that I can convince you that your information is incorrect and that you will do all in your power to correct the injustice, I am writing this letter.

"Cattlemen have suffered as much as any other group from the results of past inflationary periods, and we would not under any circumstances do anything now that would make uncontrolled inflation imminent. We agree that the control of meat prices is necessary, but we insist that this control be made effective and that it be exercised without curtailing the production of beef. Our very deep concern since the beginning of meat price control has been not with control itself but with its effectiveness and with the results of the control methods used on the production of beef. That this concern was justified is borne out by the record. We have a flourishing black market where exorbitant prices are paid, and we are experiencing a serious curtailment in beef production at a time when we need it in very great quantities. Supplies of beef were very short in the spring of 1943; we will face a much more critical situation in the spring of 1944.

"During the fall of 1942 it became increasingly apparent to many of us in the livestock and meat industry that the present method of controlling meat prices by rigid price ceilings was breaking down meat production. We set out to find a better method of control. The plan developed, a meat management plan, was presented to all segments of the industry in April of this year. It won universal approval. It was then offered to the proper agencies of the government. It won the approval of Chester Davis, at that time war food administrator, of Prentiss Brown, then administrator of OPA, and of the quartermaster general of the United States. A War Meat Board was set up to administer the plan, but it was never allowed to function because of the opposition of the price section of OPA.

"A detailed description of meat management has no place in this letter, but I would like to make a short statement about it. Meat management will pro-

vide, through civilian rationing and co-ordinated government buying, an effective control of meat prices at any level of prices the government decides is in the public interest; it will return the livestock and meat industry to a normal competitive basis and thereby insure the maximum production of meat consistent with livestock numbers and feed supplies; and it does not propose the removal of any of the existing price ceilings on meat until it is clearly shown that such controls are no longer necessary. I shall be glad to furnish you a detailed statement of the plan if you are sufficiently interested to give it careful study.

"In view of the above, it is quite obvious that you misinterpreted the statement of Judge Montague, attorney for the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association, made before the Senate Agricultural Committee. Cattlemen want the industry returned to normal competitive conditions—to the law of supply and demand, if you wish—but with these two very important controls: civilian demand controlled by rationing and meat prices controlled at a price level in line with government price policy by rationing and co-ordinated government buying. Even a casual reading of the record of that hearing will show that this is what cattlemen want and what Judge Montague meant.

"You are entirely wrong in saying that cattlemen 'want the lid taken off prices.' Cattlemen have never at any time asked for an increase in the price of cattle or for an increase in the price ceiling on beef. And this fact is particularly significant when we remember that the producers of cattle are the only group involved in the production of beef who are interested in the price level. The others—cattle feeders, processors, and retailers—are interested only in price margins.

"Your statement that the prices of cattle have advanced 89 per cent since the beginning of the war is quite obviously wrong to anyone familiar with the cattle business and very misleading to anyone who is not. The statement is made in a recent release by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City which dealt with the cattle situation that the price of cattle has advanced since the war approximately 50 per cent. This statement is, I believe, correct.

"I am a cattleman. I have the honor of heading an organization that represents the cattlemen of the western states. I am thoroughly familiar with their attitude on inflation and price control and with their willingness to have the price of meat controlled even though it means financial sacrifice. I know of their efforts to keep up production in the face of very trying conditions. And, knowing intimately these

facts, I was astounded by the distortion and misstatement of facts contained in your article, and to be placed in the same class as John L. Lewis and other labor leaders who are so obviously working in their own selfish interests, trying to shift the burden of the war to the shoulders of others! To put it bluntly, I was so thoroughly mad that I had to cool off for several days before writing this letter.

"Surely a man of your standing, conscious of the very great influence you have in moulding public opinion, must realize also the tremendous responsibility which goes with it; the responsibility of ascertaining all the facts and of interpreting those facts with fairness and justice to all concerned. Obviously you did not do so in this instance and as a result have been unfair and unjust to cattlemen. I dare to hope that you will do whatever you can to correct it."

Mr. Clapper's reply:

"The figures used were those of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. I always hesitate to use any statistics because even the government bureaus are never quite together on them. But I'll accept your figure of 50 per cent increase and let it go at that. That is pretty good, even so, it seems to me.

"I am sorry that we can't see a little more together on this question, but it seems to me that holding down the price level is the most important thing in the matter of domestic wartime economics, and I can't see that the interests of any special group should take precedence."

After reading the letter, Mr. Boice wrote to Mr. Clapper:

"Your letter of December 1 in answer to mine of November 27 was here at the ranch on my return after several days' absence. I am bitterly disappointed.

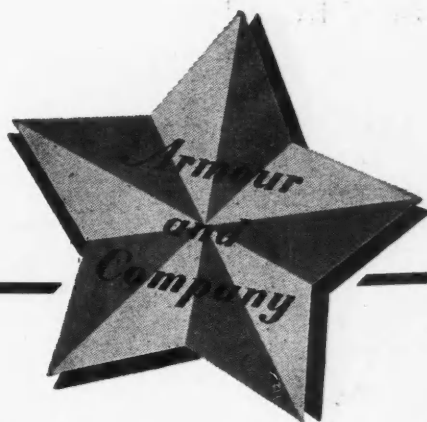
"The matter now stands as follows: Because cattlemen do not agree with you that the use of consumer subsidies is a proper and effective method of inflation control, you have, without getting the facts, published an article in which you make several derogatory statements as to the purpose behind the opposition of cattlemen to the subsidy program. These statements are contrary to the facts and are very unfair to cattlemen. And when your attention was called to your mistake you attempted to brush the whole thing aside with a pious platitude.

"As far as cattlemen are concerned, the great Raymond Clapper who fearlessly sought the facts and interpreted those facts with wisdom and courage is no more. He has become just another advocate and apologist for the administration."



The Bond you buy over here—may save a life over there!

★ BUY BONDS ★



WHAT'S A STEER WORTH?

Some people say a steer is worth what it costs to produce, plus a profit—but every business man, whether he be a farmer or a merchant, knows that anything is worth only what somebody will pay for it and its cost is a minor factor.

Do the producers of steers, hogs and sheep get the full value of their animals when they sell them at the nation's market places? The answer to that question depends on these factors:

- (1) How much the consuming public is willing to pay for the products which are made from the meat animal.
- (2) What portion of the consumer's dollar goes back to the producer?
- (3) Is the work of converting live animals into meat and by-products performed efficiently?

- (4) How much profit does the packer get?

Approximately 75 per cent of what packers receive for meat and by-products goes back to the producers of livestock.

The efficiency of the packing industry is generally recognized and few industries are able to maintain themselves on as small a portion of their total income as is the packing industry.

Packers' profits over a long period of years have averaged less than two cents per dollar of sales and less than 6 per cent on capital invested in plants, equipment, etc. The smallness of packers' profits and the large portion of the total revenue which goes back to the producers are positive evidence that natural laws of competition and good business management are operating to make a steer net its producer all that the public says it is worth.



ARMOUR AND COMPANY

Range and Livestock Condition in Relation to Annual Precipitation

By Marion Clawson,
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

READERS OF THE PRODUCER ARE familiar with the range and livestock condition figures compiled by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. These figures have been published monthly in the PRODUCER for 20 years and also appear currently in the *National Wool Grower* as well as in other publications. These figures are based upon the monthly reports of approximately 2,000 ranchers located in various parts of the 17 western states. Although these data have been published over a considerable period of time and although they are widely quoted and used, until recently no analysis had been made of the relation between these condition figures and annual precipitation. This article presents some of the more outstanding results of such an analysis.

Livestock producers have been asked to report the condition of ranges, of cattle, and of sheep in their locality. This condition is expressed in percentages based on a descriptive scale by which 49 or below is very bad, 50 to 59 is bad, 60 to 69 is poor, 70 to 79 is fair, 80 to 89 is good, 90 to 99 is very good, and 100 or over is excellent or unusual. The average of all producers reporting gives a remarkably stable and accurate concept of the prevailing growth and

cover of range and the appearance and vigor of livestock, which can be reliably compared over a considerable area and over a considerable period of years. In this regard, range condition figures compare very favorably with crop condition figures for such crops as wheat, corn, and cotton which have been more widely used and for a longer period of time.

Producers' estimates of range condition vary greatly from month to month and from state to state depending upon the actual condition of the range. The highest figure reported was 110 per cent in Montana for August and September, 1927. Condition figures of over 100 are very rare and those of over 90 are not common. In most months the condition is estimated at between 60 and 80 per cent. In unfavorable periods, condition falls far below this. In Kansas for May, 1935, it reached a minimum figure of 25 per cent. Figures of below 50 per cent are uncommon. Range condition as reported by producers may change sharply from month to month. For instance, range condition in North Dakota dropped from 60 per cent in May, 1934, to 40 per cent in June of the same year. Drops of this magnitude are rather uncommon, but declines of 10 to 15 points between one month and the next are not unusual. On the other side, increases of 10 to 15 per cent from one

month to the next have been encountered in several states and on several occasions. It is evident that producers' estimates of range conditions are sensitive to changing conditions and that changes in range conditions are very quickly reflected in their estimates.

A close relationship exists between range condition, as reported by range producers, and cattle and sheep condition. If the condition of the range goes down, livestock condition will also go down, but ordinarily not until two to six months later. When range condition improves, livestock condition improves in the same period. The changes in livestock condition ordinarily are not so marked as the changes in range condition. Thus, on the average, if range condition changes 10 points, livestock condition is likely to change only five to seven points. This relationship varies somewhat from one state to another and depends somewhat on whether cattle or sheep are under consideration. In general, however, the relation between livestock condition and range condition is quite close month by month. The condition of either cattle or sheep can ordinarily be estimated within three points of the correct figure on the basis of range condition in the same month. In fully two out of three months livestock condition will be within three points of the condition estimated on the basis of range condition alone. Thus there is a close relationship between range and livestock condition, and if reasons behind variation in range condition can be accounted for it is fairly sure that the same factors will affect range livestock condition as well.

The reported condition of the range in any month may be influenced by a large number of factors. Precipitation during that and preceding months is likely to be one important factor. Not only the total amount of precipitation but also its distribution is likely to be important. Every stockman knows that timeliness of precipitation is important as well as the total precipitation that falls. Temperature may also be an important factor affecting range condition. A relation between these factors and range condition might logically be expected.

Although producers report range condition monthly, in this analysis only annual range condition figures have been analyzed. The monthly data for all the 17 western states constitute a large mass of detail which cannot be analyzed without a great deal of work. The 12 monthly condition figures have been averaged in order to obtain a single figure for each year. As will be shown later, the results are satisfactory, although a further analysis of data by months would probably be desirable.

The relationship between annual precipitation and annual range condition for North Dakota is shown in figure 1. Each dot represents the average range

Range condition estimated on basis of precipitation in same and preceding years, 17 western states, 1923-41

State	On basis of precipitation during the same year, range condition is equal to	On basis of precipitation during the same and the preceding years, range condition is equal to
Arizona.....	64.3 + 1.20 ^x	*
California.....	63.4 + .62 ^x	*
Colorado.....	53.7 + 1.20 ^x	15.8 + 2.03 ^x + 2.15 ^y
Idaho.....	68.1 + .94 ^x	*
Kansas ¹	38.1 + 1.94 ^x	8.9 + 1.79 ^x + 1.82 ^y
Montana.....	48.5 + 2.52 ^x	22.7 + 2.38 ^x + 1.96 ^y
Nebraska ¹	56.6 + 1.54 ^x	35.4 + 1.62 ^x + 1.14 ^y
Nevada.....	65.8 + 2.38 ^x	*
New Mexico.....	70.7 + .70 ^x	45.0 + .78 ^x + 1.68 ^y
North Dakota.....	46.2 + 1.84 ^x	21.1 + 1.82 ^x + 1.61 ^y
Oklahoma.....	50.7 + .70 ^x	*
Oregon ²	71.8 + .90 ^x	*
South Dakota ¹	47.7 + 1.84 ^x	31.7 + 1.59 ^x + 1.21 ^y
Texas.....	64.6 + .51 ^x	45.1 + .53 ^x + .63 ^y
Utah.....	59.6 + 1.80 ^x	*
Washington.....	69.8 + .84 ^x	*
Wyoming ²	48.9 + 2.37 ^x	20.6 + 2.23 ^x + 2.15 ^y

^x = inches of precipitation in same year.

^y = inches of precipitation in preceding year.

* = No significant relation of precipitation in preceding year.

1 Western part of state.

2 Precipitation for eastern part of state, range condition for state as a whole.



DON'T SHORT YOUR CATTLE TWO WAYS

UP TO A third more cattle. At least a third less protein feed. That in round numbers sums up today's feed situation.

In spite of everything the cottonseed processors can do, there is an acute shortage of cottonseed cake.

This, of course, means a serious protein deficiency. But that is not all! Cottonseed cake is also a rich source of vital phosphorus. This is another reason why cottonseed cake is so popular in the range country where great areas are seriously lacking in this necessary feed element.

Cattlemen everywhere know how serious phosphorus deficiency is. They have seen the depraved appetites which result from its lack. They know that without phosphorus you can't count on strong, healthy calves.

The cottonseed processors are doing everything humanly possible to supply you with beef-making protein feed.

Meanwhile, you need not short your cattle TWO ways! Your cattle can get phosphorus, plus all the other minerals they need, from MoorMan's Range Minerals.

E. W. Hunt, prominent Texas cattleman, used to keep two men riding range just to keep cattle from dying with bones in their throats. Within six months after he started feeding MoorMan's Minerals, he let one of the men go. He was no longer needed.

Range cattle always need more minerals than they can get from grass. Now, with the added phosphorus deficiency caused by shortage of cottonseed, MoorMan's Range Minerals become doubly necessary and profitable.

MoorMan's

MINERAL FEEDS

MOORMAN MFG. CO., Dept. A-102, Quincy, Ill.

Moorman Mfg. Co., Dept. A-102, Quincy, Illinois.

I don't want to short my cattle two ways.

Please send me more information.

Name.....

Address or R. F. D.....

Post Office..... County..... State.....

Figure 1—Range condition in relation to annual precipitation in North Dakota, 1923 to 1941

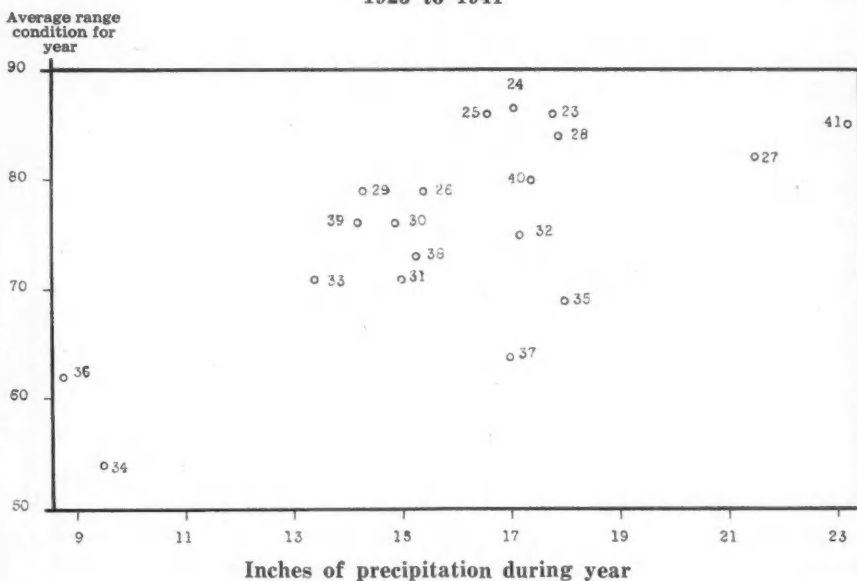
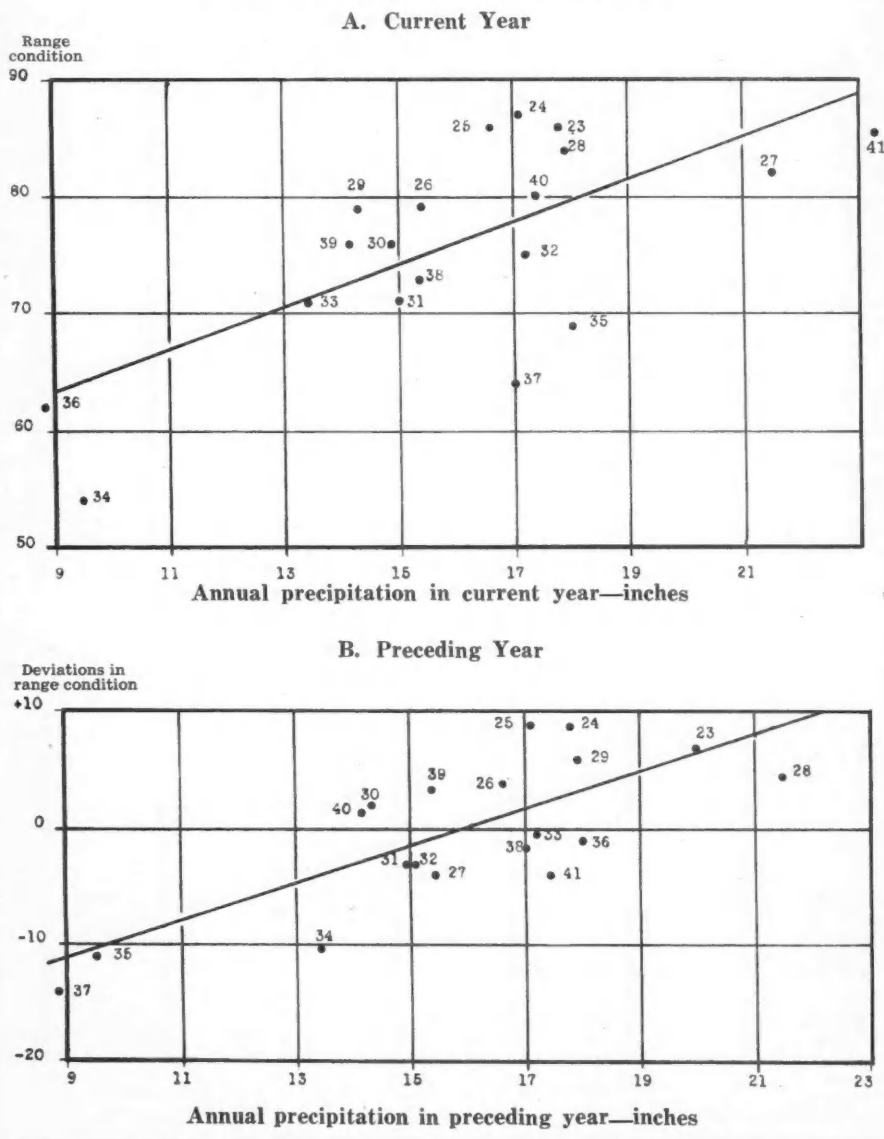


Figure 2—North Dakota: Range condition in relation to annual precipitation in current and preceding years, 1923 to 1941



condition and the precipitation for a particular year, the number beside the dot indicating the year. Thus in 1923, precipitation was 17.8 inches and range condition was 86 per cent. In 1924 and 1925, in spite of somewhat lower precipitation, range condition was approximately as high as in 1923. By 1926 both precipitation and range condition were lower than in the three preceding years. In 1927, precipitation was much higher but range condition was not so high as in the 1923-25 period. The year 1928 was almost the same as these three earlier years. In 1929, 1930, and 1931, precipitation and range condition were all much lower, though there were greater differences among these years in range condition than in precipitation. In 1932, precipitation was approximately the same as in 1924 but range condition was several points lower. In 1933, both precipitation and range condition were lower than in any year up to that time. The great drought of 1934 is shown by the extremely low precipitation and range condition of that year. In 1935, precipitation was average or above but range condition was low. In 1936, the drought was greater than in 1934 but range condition was several points higher. In 1937, precipitation was approximately average but range condition was very low compared with other years of the same precipitation. The years 1938, 1939, and 1940 all fell in the same range as the great bulk of the years fell. In 1941, precipitation was higher than in any year since 1923 and range condition was nearly at a peak.

A glance at figure 1 shows a broad general relationship between years of low precipitation and low range condition on the one hand and high precipitation and high range condition on the other hand.* The year-to-year variations indicate considerable deviation from this broad general relationship. It may appear that the relation between range condition and total annual precipitation is not particularly close and that many other factors must enter. A little further study of figure 1 will reveal some additional relationships, however. The two years which probably deviate the furthest from any line of average relationship are 1935 and 1937. Although precipitation was approximately average in these years, range condition was relatively low. It should be noted that each of these years follows a year of extremely low precipitation. This suggests that precipitation in the preceding year may have some effect upon range condition in any year. With this in mind, figure 2 was prepared.

On figure 2, lines have been drawn to represent the net effect of precipitation in each year upon range condition. These

* The analysis which follows presents the conclusions of the author and does not necessarily represent the official viewpoint of his agency.



NEW YEAR'S

Greetings

Despite the many difficulties with which the livestock and meat industry was confronted in 1943, we broke all records in the number of livestock marketed and pounds of meat processed and delivered.

In doing this job, the simple fact that we are in this business together, and that teamwork is required if we are to do our best, was brought home to us as never before.

CHICAGO,
KANSAS CITY, OKLAHOMA CITY,
LOS ANGELES



CEDAR RAPIDS,
OMAHA, ALBERT LEA,
NEW YORK

Figure 3—North Dakota: Actual and estimated range condition, 1923 to 1941

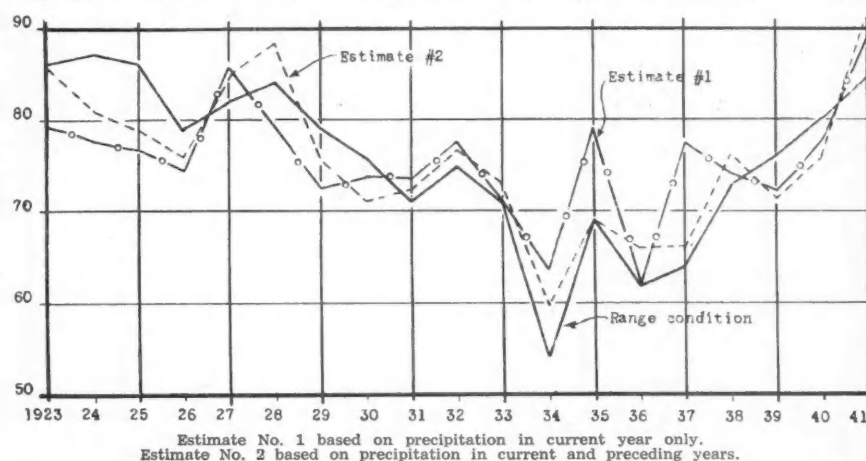
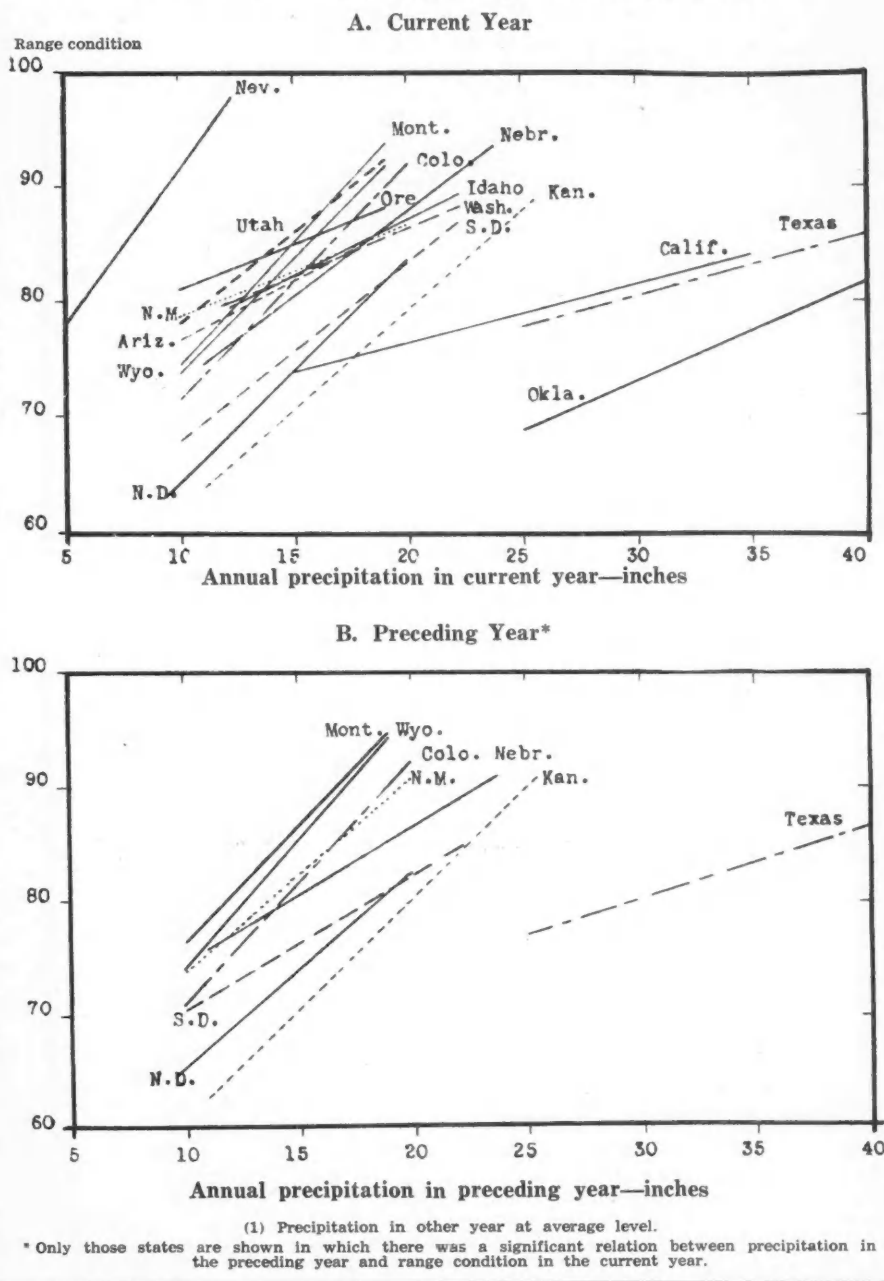


Figure 4—Net relationship of range condition to annual precipitation in current and preceding year¹, 17 western states, 1923 to 1941



lines have been determined by a mathematical formula and are quite accurate. Thus the range condition is influenced by precipitation in the same year and also by precipitation in the preceding year. The difference between reported range condition and range condition as estimated on the basis of precipitation in the same year, is related rather closely to precipitation in the preceding year. Thus range condition in 1937 was approximately 14 points lower than would have been estimated on the basis of precipitation in that year alone. When consideration is given to the low precipitation in 1936, however, range condition in 1937 was approximately that which would have been expected. There are still some unexplained deviations in range condition in the lower half of figure 2, even after the effect of precipitation in current and preceding years has been taken into account. These deviations are due to other factors such as the timeliness of precipitation, temperatures, and other climatic factors as well, perhaps, as non-climatic factors.

On the basis of the relationship shown in figure 2, it is possible to estimate range condition each year and compare it with the range condition as reported by livestock producers. This has been done on figure 3 where the solid line is the reported range condition and the broken lines are the estimated range condition. Estimates based on precipitation in the current year only are fairly accurate in some years, particularly years of approximately average precipitation. They are quite inaccurate in the year following a year of low precipitation. Estimates based upon precipitation in both the present and the preceding year are much closer. This is particularly notable for 1934, 1935, and 1937. Except for these three years, range condition could have been estimated on the basis of precipitation in the current year with about as good results as if both years were considered. In these years, however, serious errors would have occurred if precipitation in the same year were the only factor used in estimating range condition.

The relationships of figures 2 and 3 can be put into a formula. For instance, range condition in North Dakota will be equal to 46.2 plus 1.84 times the inches of precipitation during the same year. This is the formula used for estimate number 1 on figure 3. Thus if precipitation were 15 inches, range condition would be 46.2 plus 1.84 times 15.0, or 46.2 plus 27.6, or 73.8. A more accurate formula is that range condition is equal to 21.1 plus 1.82 times inches of precipitation in the same year plus 1.60 times inches of precipitation in the preceding year. This is the formula on which estimate number 2 has been based. Thus if precipitation in the current year is 18.5 inches and in the preceding year was 12.4 inches, range condition would be 21.1 plus 1.82 times 18.5

George Washington did it...



...and so did his ragged army when they laid aside their muskets and went back to their farms. There they raised the things they needed... sheep for wool and mutton, flax for cloth they wove at home, hogs for meat and "cracklins," cattle for leather and substantial roast beef, grain they ground themselves. Wood from the surrounding forests kept them warm in winter. That was making the most of what they had at hand. *That was diversified farming.*

Since that day, most farms do not have as many different crops. Instead, they grow and produce only those crops that fit naturally together.

In our business, diversification follows the same principle. We prepare products that are related. For example, we make salad oils because the same knowledge that enables us to make fine lard is used in processing oils. The same salesmen and delivery equipment may be used in the sale and handling of all of our prod-

ucts. Our by-products and our other products are all related, and naturally fit into our business. That is practical diversification.

So, over a period of years, there has never been a year when some departments of Swift & Company did not make money and some lose. For example, the less favorable earnings of our fresh meat departments during 1943 were offset by earnings in the non-meat departments.

The following films are for your use:

"A Nation's Meat"

"Cows and Chickens, U. S. A."

SWIFT & COMPANY

CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

Through many years, Swift & Company's net profits from ALL sources have averaged but a fraction of a penny a pound.

plus 1.60 times 12.4, or 21.1 plus 33.7 plus 19.8, or 74.6.

The analysis just described for North Dakota has been made for each of the 17 western states. The number of charts involved is large and it is impossible to present them here. A summary of these results, however, is shown in figure 4. In the upper half of the chart, the relation between range condition and precipitation in the same year is shown. It can be seen that there is a general similarity of relationship in most of the range states. Nevada, with its extremely low precipitation, lies to one side of most of the states. On the other side, California, Texas, and Oklahoma, because of their much higher average precipitation, are separate from the other states. The other 13 states have a generally similar relationship. On the lower part of figure 4 is shown the relationship between precipitation in the preceding year and range condition. This relationship is shown only for those states in which precipitation in the preceding year exerts a significant effect. Precipitation in the preceding year exerts a significant effect upon range condition in only nine of the 17 states. Again a general similarity of relationship is evident.

These same relationships can be expressed in formulae. This has been done in the table. For each state a formula is shown for estimating range condition in a particular year on the basis of pre-

cipitation in that year. For those states where the precipitation in the preceding year exerts a significant effect, a formula involving two years is shown. In general, these formulae will give rather close estimates of the range condition in each year. For 11 of the 17 states, from 65 to 78 per cent of the variation in range condition can be accounted for on the basis of precipitation in the present or in the present plus preceding years. In a few states the relationship is not particularly close. This is the case for California, Idaho, Oregon, and Texas. For most states where the relationship is close, the estimate based upon precipitation in one or both years will come within five points of the reported range condition in at least two out of three years.

On the basis of the relationship shown in figure 4 and in the table, the states can profitably be grouped as follows:

(1) The northern Great Plains, including North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado. In these states an additional inch of precipitation in the current year increases reported range condition from 1.6 to 2.4 points, depending upon the state, and averaging 1.9 points for the seven states. Precipitation in the preceding year is almost equally important, the net effect of an additional inch of precipitation varying from 1.1 to 2.1 points and averaging 1.7 points for the group of states. The relationship

between range condition and precipitation is particularly close in these states.

(2) The mountain states of Arizona, Utah, and Nevada. Range condition increases from 1.2 to 2.4 points for each additional inch of precipitation, depending upon the particular state, but averaging 1.8 points for the group of states. The effect of precipitation in the preceding year is negligible.

(3) The southwestern states of Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico. Range condition increases from .5 to .7 points for each additional inch of precipitation in the same year. Precipitation in the preceding year seems to have a negligible effect in Oklahoma but a fairly important effect in both New Mexico and Texas. Range condition in Oklahoma and New Mexico is rather closely related to precipitation but the relationship is much less close in Texas.

(4) The three Pacific Coast states of California, Oregon, and Washington, and Idaho from the mountain area. Here there is a rather low relation between range condition and precipitation. The influence of precipitation in the preceding year is negligible in each of these states.

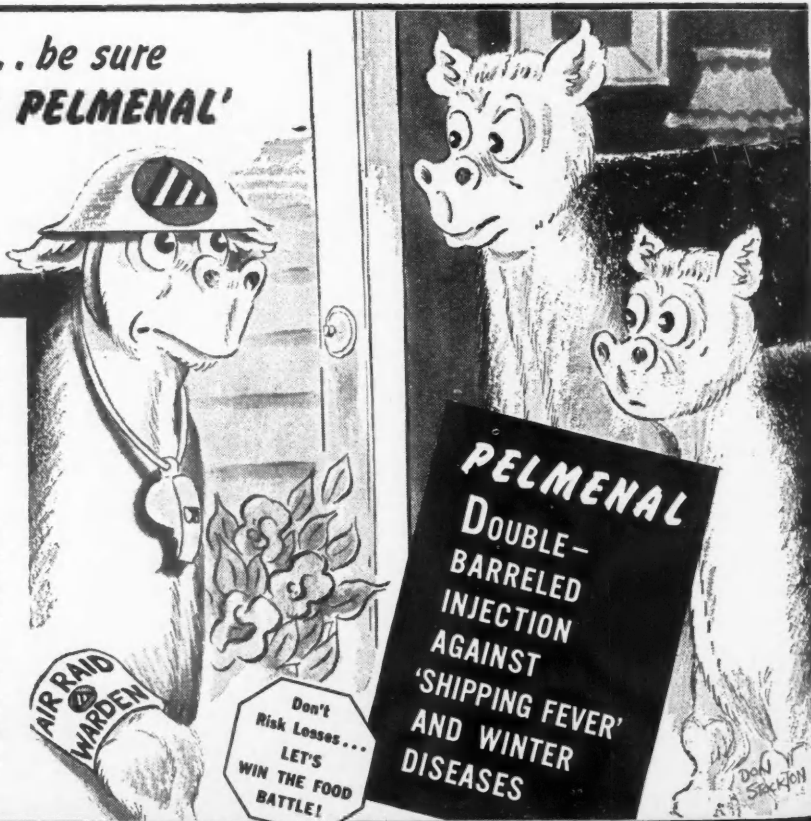
The foregoing material and the more detailed analysis from which this was drawn indicate rather clearly that the predominant factor affecting range condition in the western states is the total amount of precipitation falling during the same or preceding year. This state-

**"In case you're shipped out... be sure
you have a shot of CUTTER PELMENAL"**

Not just shipping—but *any* condition that has a tendency to weaken an animal and lower its resistance to disease—can make it a prey to the organisms of so-called "shipping fever." Severe climatic changes on your own range—hard drives from range to range—or drastic changes in feed can do it.

Vaccinate *routinely*, whether you're shipping or not—with Cutter Pelmenal! Pelmenal contains both the organism which causes true hemorrhagic septicemia and the one to which pulmonary infections associated with shipping fever are often ascribed.

And, like Blacklegol, Pelmenal contains Cutter's special chemical fortification—aluminum hydroxide adsorption! This fortification holds the vaccine in the animal's tissues, releasing it slowly. It acts like small repeated doses of ordinary vaccines. *Use Pelmenal!*



CUTTER Laboratories • Berkeley, Calif. • Since 1897

ment does not deny the influence of other factors, particularly the distribution or timeliness of precipitation during the particular year or the influence of temperature or other climatic or non-climatic factors. It simply indicates that among all the factors, total precipitation is the predominant one.

(Editor's Note: The author in this article has confirmed through continuing studies the showing of relationship of range condition to precipitation given in "If and When It Rains," by F. E. Mollin, executive secretary of the American National Live Stock Association. The author goes further in his demonstration that precipitation in the preceding year exerts a considerable effect for at least a year later, and notes that the influence of temperature seems less marked than "If and When It Rains" charts implied.)

CALIFORNIA MEETING

MORE THAN 200 DELEGATES from all parts of the state, together with many local and out-of-state visitors, heard President Loren Bamert in opening the 27th annual convention of the California Cattlemen's Association held in San Francisco last week declare that farmers and cattlemen are being required by county agricultural conservation associations to sign AAA soil conservation agreements as a condition to receiving priorities for the purchase of ranch equipment. Mr. Bamert related his own experience in San Joaquin County as proof of the charges, stating that in order to secure a priority for a

water pump for use in watering his cattle he was required to sign a "war food program contract." "This is black-mail," declared Mr. Bamert. He said that unless rain and warm weather come soon many cattle will die on the ranges due to the large numbers and lack of protein supplements.

The theme of the cattlemen could well have been "Get the bureaucrats out of our hair and we'll produce meat."

Frank S. Boice, Sonoita, Ariz., president of the American National Live Stock Association, stated that the so-called "ceiling order" affecting live cattle was issued to protect OPA from the consequences of two lawsuits attacking the validity of meat ceiling regulations, OPA having been warned of an adverse court decision. He predicted a serious beef shortage by next spring.

Dr. George H. Hart, professor of animal husbandry, University of California, a well-known authority on feed, described the present situation as acute and urged the immediate importation of wheat and protein feeds from other countries.

Governor Raps Bureaucrats

On the second day of the convention, Governor Earl Warren spoke to a capacity audience. "Some of the major problems of your industry have come to my attention in many ways during the past year. In fact," said the governor, "I caught myself forming the impression

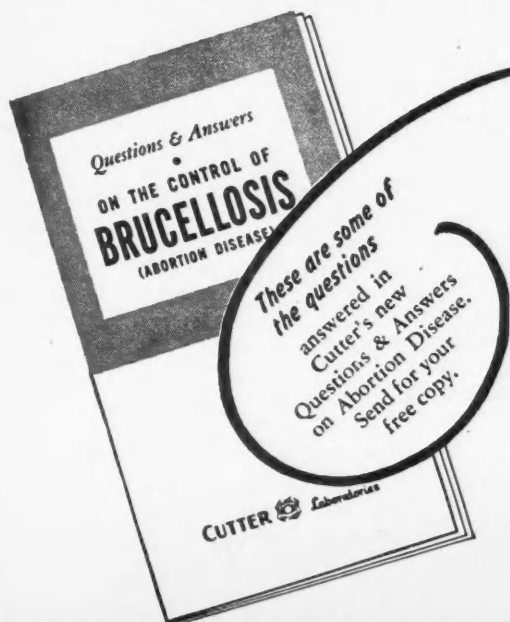
that the cattle industry had gone all out to war but was being forced to spend most of its time climbing in and out of bureaucratic foxholes."

"Your problems," he continued, "have arisen chiefly from the fact that you have been matching your patriotic zeal with bureaucratic lack of understanding which is too far removed for quick correction. Too much time has had to be wasted trying to educate someone in authority to recognize a specific problem so he in turn could educate someone else."

The cattlemen adopted resolutions pledging continued livestock production to the limit of feed available; condemning the withholding of priorities to force cattlemen into AAA programs; suggesting a committee to represent the industry in Washington; requesting immediate action to relieve the packinghouse manpower shortage; requesting that price ceilings be kept in line with production costs; urging adoption of the industry's meat management plan; declaring live cattle price ceilings to be unworkable; opposing subsidies; condemning government by directive order and requesting Congress to accept its responsibility for law making; urging permanent lifting of slaughter quotas; protesting loose thinking and loose talking on the part of those who would substitute cereals for meat in the diet; urging continued vigilance against foot-and-mouth disease; urging economy in federal expendi-

HOW CAN IT BE DETERMINED

whether an abortion is due to ABORTION DISEASE or to other causes?



- What is the best means of cleaning up abortion disease in an infected herd?
- When is testing an unnecessary expense?

Abortion control in dairy and registered beef herds is quite routine procedure—but in many range herds, abortion disease losses are still accepted as an act of ill-natured Providence.

How much of your calf crop were you robbed of last Spring?—losses that vaccination with Cutter Abortion Vaccine might have prevented!

Cutter Abortion Vaccine is prepared from living cultures of the *Brucella abortus* organism. While incapable of causing the disease, it helps the animal to produce an immunity against it.

For practical answers to most-asked questions about abortion control, address Cutter Laboratories, Berkeley, Calif., or your nearest office listed below.

• • •

PLEASE BEAR WITH US . . . if there are occasional short delays in obtaining Cutter Products. The war comes first—and production of vaccines, serums, antitoxins, intravenous solutions, blood plasma, etc., for the armed forces naturally is calling for the greater part of our facilities.

If not available locally, write for name of nearest supplier. Address any Cutter branch office . . . Los Angeles • Seattle • Ft. Worth • San Antonio • Denver • Calgary • Regina • Vancouver • Winnipeg

tures as equal to war bond sales for providing necessary funds; recommending a state program of wild game management; favoring increased planting of sugar beets; opposing unnecessary acquisition of private lands by the government; favoring brush burning as a method of range improvement; urging payment by Commodity Credit Corporation of claims filed by feeders for losses sustained through cancellation of contracts by that agency; placing responsibility for the impending meat shortage squarely upon the administration.

Right or wrong, the California cattlemen have met their issues squarely and stated their case in words easy to understand.

The convention was marked by the intentness with which the cattlemen attended to business. Although good-natured, it was plain that many of these men had sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, in uniform. No demands were made for higher prices—more profits—only for a chance to produce.

Loren Bamert, Ione, was re-elected president of the association for the third successive time, and Dan McKinney, San Francisco, was again chosen secretary.

ASSOCIATION NOTES

SANITARY ASSOCIATION RESOLUTIONS

In a December meeting at Chicago, the United States Livestock Sanitary Association adopted resolutions that commended the work of Dr. John R. Mohler, retired chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry; advocated a greater degree of uniformity in the rules and regulations of the various states governing the interstate shipment of livestock; urged actively organized campaigns within each state where nodular worms are prevalent for the control of the disease in sheep; recommended further grub control work, especially in cattle feeder producing states; suggested establishment of diagnostic laboratories within the states; recommended that all trucks used for transporting animals suffering from communicable diseases be cleaned and disinfected under official inspection before carrying further livestock shipments; and that the 28-hour law be made applicable to all forms of transportation of livestock. R. A. Hendershott has been newly re-elected to the post of secretary in the United States Livestock Sanitary Association.

NEW MEXICO RESOLUTIONS

Two hundred members of the executive board of the New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association in resolutions adopted at a meeting at Albuquerque in December opposed subsidies, except where necessary to maintain essential industries or encourage production of scarce commodities; opposed cattle ceilings; asked that some 450,000 acres of

grazing lands in northeastern counties not within grazing districts be ceded to the state to help out in the situation of decreased tax income created by federal acquisition of land; endorsed position of state game commission in fishing and boating rights and in efforts to develop recreational uses of land with just consideration of the economic uses of the lands; asked that seed examination be included within the jurisdiction of the state feed and fertilizer control board.

CALAVERAS CATTLEMEN'S MEETING

An attendance of record proportions, amplified by the addition of a number of new members, made interested listeners to addresses on varied topics when the Calaveras County Cattlemen's Association convened at San Andreas, Cal., on Nov. 12. Topics of current importance claimed the attention of the delegates, chief among these being the matters of public water troughs along highways, forest trail improvements, warble or "grub" control, and income taxes. Loren Bamert, Dan C. McKinney, and other officials of the California Cattlemen's Association and other California groups addressed the convention.

WYOMING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS IN CHEYENNE

Exceptionally well attended was the meeting of the executive committee of the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association at the Frontier Hotel in Cheyenne on Dec. 14-15. Members of the committee realized that the industry during the past year has been subjected to many trials and that many problems were in the offing, and they came to Cheyenne to consider these problems. Chairman Clarence Gardner presided over the meeting and the round-table discussions. F. E. Mollin, executive secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, detailed to the committee the problems and questions that have been before the industry the past year. Fred E. Warren, Cheyenne, discussed the tax problems, centering his remarks on the issue involving the constant-unit method of reporting for income tax purposes now before the new National Live Stock Tax Committee. Lester Bagley, of the state game commission, and Mr. Simpson, of the Wyoming Izaak Walton League, spoke on big game. The discussion showed a fine spirit of co-operation between the various interests on this knotty problem. Other speakers included George Knutson, federal statistician, Cheyenne, on the subject of protein and other feed supplies.

AMADOR-EL DORADO GROUP MEETS

Members of the Amador-El Dorado Livestock Association, branch of the California Cattlemen's Association, at their regular fall meeting at Ione on

Nov. 13, decided to include Sacramento County in their organization name. The action was suggested in consideration of the number of cattlemen from that county who have joined the association, and the newly adopted name is Amador-El Dorado-Sacramento Livestock Association, Branch of the CCA. Loren Bamert, president of the California Cattlemen's Association, spoke to the group. Commendation was expressed for Mr. Bamert's work in the state farm production council and for his untiring efforts on behalf of the cattlemen's association.

JUDITH BASIN MEETING

Stanford, Mont., was the scene of the annual fall meeting of the Judith Basin Stock Growers' Association in late November, with several hundred stockmen from surrounding counties present. At the afternoon session members heard addresses by Sylvan Pauly of Deer Lodge, M. H. Saunderson of Montana State College, and Gerald Behimer, Fergus County agent. The convention ended with an evening banquet, presided over by Harry Galt.

NAME ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Frank Parsons of Weston, Colo., well-known Las Animas County rancher, was named president of the Southern Colorado Live Stock Association at a meeting of that body recently at Trinidad, Colo.

CALENDAR

JANUARY—

- 10—Turner Ranch sale, Sulphur, Okla.
- 13-15—AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASS'N CONVENTION, Denver, Colo.
- 15-22—National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.
- 17—Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Ass'n convention, Denver.
- 22-23—American Wool Council meetings, Denver, Colo.
- 24-26—National Wool Growers' Ass'n convention, Denver, Colo.

FEBRUARY—

- 3-4—New Mexico Wool Growers' Ass'n convention, Albuquerque.
- 4-5—Arizona Cattle Growers' Ass'n convention, Tucson.
- 4-13—Houston Fat Stock Show and Livestock Exposition, Houston, Tex.
- Feb. 29-Mar. 1—Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Ass'n convention, Houston, Tex.

MARCH—

- 2-4—National Aberdeen-Angus sale and show, Chicago, Ill.
- 6—South Dakota Hereford Breeders' Ass'n show and sale, Aberdeen, S. D.
- 7-9—Kansas Livestock Ass'n convention, Wichita.
- 10-19—Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock show, Ft. Worth, Tex.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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OREGON CATTLEMAN SECTION

THE NORTHWESTERN SLAUGHTERING JAM

ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON THE livestock slaughtering situation in the Pacific Northwest continue to come in to this office. After the various meetings last month, participated in by stockmen, meat packers, and government representatives, it was generally agreed that lack of labor at packinghouses plus ration point values were the basic cause of the inability of the packing trade to handle all of the livestock offered for sale.

It was stated that low wage scales at packinghouses had resulted in labor moving to the more highly paid shipyards. It was certain that ration point values were greatly reducing meat consumption. Butter, with its point value of 16 to the pound, was another factor in the reduced consumption of meat.

All these facts were understood by the government agencies, and shortly after the meetings in Portland and Spokane meat point values were greatly lowered. That this had an important value can be understood when prices for certain grades of cattle rose from \$1 to \$1.50 a hundred upon notice that point values had been reduced.

Apparently nothing could be done in regard to adjustment of the wage scale in the larger packinghouses. In fact, there is some doubt as to whether this wage scale is the cause of the manpower shortage. It is true that the scale at Swifts in North Portland is 70 cents an hour as a starting wage, while the similar base wage at the shipyards is 93 cents. However, the statement has been made that only 15 or 20 people in the Swift plant draw this starting wage and that the average is \$1.07 an hour and that a similar comparison shows the shipyard average scale to be slightly above that amount. Apparently the military services have removed most of the employees at Swifts that account for the shortage. One hundred and twenty-five are in the armed forces from that one plant and a similar condition exists at the other packinghouses.

It is almost certain that the peak of marketing has been reached or passed in the case of cattle and lambs and that hog numbers will be controlled by not shipping from excessive distances. There are still sore spots that will cause trouble for producers. Old fat ewes are practically unsalable; no one will put out ration points for this type of meat. The customers, full of money, want the best. Ancient dairy cows are a drug on the market. Eighty per cent of the canner and cutter cows on the North Portland market are from dairy herds. In the winter when the covered sheds at

the North Portland yards are as windy as the North Pole and twice as cold, these discarded cows, out of warm dairy barns, have to be killed almost immediately or they get pneumonia and are a dead loss. As a result, no one buys more than they can dispose of in a day or so, and this type of meat animal is in a tough spot when it gets to market.

The labor situation probably will improve. Peak production has been reached in a few lines and more will get to the point where men will be released for other work. Probably the worst has passed, as far as cattle marketing is concerned, although immediate results of the meetings in Portland probably can be summed up by saying that they were partly responsible for meat ration point reduction and a better understanding of the various problems involved by all concerned. In the long run it may result in several favorable actions. Certainly the OPA and the various other agencies responsible for handling of food products must understand that prompt action must be taken to handle such situations as existed in the Northwest last summer and fall. The packing interests must also know that when they are in a legitimate jam, they can call upon other interested groups for assistance if they will make their troubles known. The producers of livestock are thoroughly familiar with the fact that, if they are to prosper over any length of time, all the other branches of the livestock business also must be in a favorable condition.

The bad part of the agitation is the attempt on the part of certain people to have the meat packing industry taken over by the government. In certain labor circles, just as in many government bureaus, there are people who think that a communistic or national socialistic form of government would be far superior to our present democracy, and they never overlook an opportunity to advance their ideas. When the packing industry for a temporary time could not handle the flood of livestock that reached the market, then these advocates of the Hitler type of government came out with their plan to rule the country. They neglected to state that the cause of the market jam was due almost 100 per cent to fumbling by government agencies.

The response for contributions to the tax committee set up by the American National to protest against a new policy on the part of Internal Revenue officials has been excellent from Oregon. To date about \$250 has been sent in, and additional sums will add to this amount.

GRANT COUNTY STOCKMEN MEET

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Grant County Stock Growers' Association was held last month in Canyon City. For 40 years this enterprising organization has worked for the interests of the livestock people of that neighborhood. Attendance was very good. Stockmen are interested in hearing about conditions in their business and they like to get together and visit. The officers were re-elected—Joe Officer of Izee is again president, with Jack French of Long Creek, vice president. M. F. Knickerbocker is secretary.

A program in the afternoon consisted of musical selections from local talent, a speaking program that featured several Grant County stockmen, and in the evening a fine banquet was served. Herman Oliver was toastmaster and many short talks were made by speakers.

Prof. Harry Lindgren in the afternoon discussed the marketing problems of the livestock industry. He told about the various committee meetings in Portland and of the difficulty of moving lambs and cattle during the past fall. He also spoke about price ceilings and the effect of a subsidy on cattle.

Frank Wire, game commission supervisor, told about the management plan for handling game animals. He said that winter feed for deer and elk had been seriously injured by drought, grasshoppers, and mice and that reduction in numbers of some species in certain localities would still be needed.

Chet Bennett, assistant forest supervisor of the Malheur Forest, spoke on the grazing situation and told about the damage to the forage by various pests. He stated that the forest was short of permittees and that more livestock could be allotted on that area.

Wayne Stewart of Dayville, former president of the association, gave a historical sketch of the livestock industry in Grant County. One particularly interesting statement was that for many years the sheep population of Grant County was over 125,000 head but that at present there were only a little over 12,000 sheep in the entire county.

Sherm. Guttridge of Prairie City told about the economic conditions in the livestock industry. He told about prices for registered cattle and the tendency of city people to buy ranches in the range country.

C. L. Jamison spoke on the recent railroad rate case and the reasons the middle western livestock interests are asking for lower freight charges on dressed meats to the Pacific Coast.

PERSONAL ITEMS

Nearly everyone was surprised to note in recent press dispatches that Nic W. Monte, regional grazer for the Department of the Interior at Burns, had been promoted to be regional grazer of the Nevada-California district. Mr. Monte came to Oregon five years ago and soon established a reputation as being a fair and unprejudiced administrator. He had spent his life in the livestock business

and knew what he was talking about. His many friends in Oregon join in wishing him much success in his new position in Nevada, and it is probable that many will have occasion to spend a few hours in his Reno headquarters.

Kenneth C. Ikeler, since 1941 superintendent of the Squaw Butte Livestock Experiment Station near Burns, has been appointed regional grazer for Oregon district to succeed Nic W. Monte. Mr. Ikeler was for several years the manager of the Ogden stockyards, and then connected with various state colleges. He served overseas during the first World War as captain of a remount company and has had much experience with livestock management. Stockmen who are acquainted with Mr. Ikeler speak well of his ability, and the Oregon district is fortunate in obtaining a man who is familiar with local conditions as well as the general livestock situation.

Walter Teal of Vale is probably the largest individual feeder of cattle this winter in Oregon. He has several hundred head in his feed-lots and is using cull potatoes as part of the ration. These spuds cost less than \$5 a ton and are a cheap feed.

Jidge Tippet recently went to Nyssa to see how the calves that he raised are doing in the sugar company feed-lot. The calves are putting on good gains and will be ready to go sometime in June. Jidge lives in Clarkston, Wash., gets his mail in Asotin, Wash., has his ranch at Rogersburg, Wash., runs his cattle mostly in Oregon, and has a headquarters at Enterprise, Ore.

It is reported that the ranch leased by W. E. Chapman of Enterprise has been sold and that Mr. Chapman is about to move to Union County, where he has secured another ranch property. Mr. Chapman runs a herd of registered Herefords and has supplied breeding cattle to many Oregon outfits.

Mr. Ray Wilson of Corvallis, Ore., well known to many stockmen and a member of the association, has moved to San Jose, Calif., to take a position with a commercial firm. Mr. Wilson has represented various chain-store organizations in the Northwest during the past three years.

H. L. Priday and Sons of Gateway have purchased the former Jake Kaiser ranch property from Ben Taylor of Mitchell. It comprises 18,000 acres and adjoins part of the Priday ranch.

GEARY'S DEATH A LOSS

The livestock and farming industry of the Northwest will long miss the services of Rate Attorney Arthur Geary. He had specialized in that line of work and was considered one of the best informed men in the entire United States on transportation problems as related to agricultural commodities. Many years ago he was employed by the late Wm. Pollman, then president of the association, to bring action against the railroads for reduction in livestock rates. The case was successful and a saving of around \$10 a car on livestock shipped over western railways was the result. In many other cases he was successful in lowering rates and thus increasing the net returns to the grower.

It takes years to develop a good rate attorney. The subject is so complex, so based on precedent and intangible factors as to constitute almost a Chinese puzzle. Certainly the country can ill afford to lose such a man, and the sympathy of the livestock industry goes to his family and business associates.

JOHNSON COMES BACK

After slipping around on the roof of the world for a year and a half, R. G. Johnson has returned to his position at Oregon State. His friends are glad to have him back, for, while there may be bigger and higher places than Oregon, there are none better, in the estimation of the true webfooter.

R. G. looked over a lot of country, took some very fine pictures, and saw the home of some of the newer types of grasses that are being introduced in this country. He traveled among a primitive class of people and he discovered what was probably the minimum diet that can support a human race. R. G. lost around 40 pounds on the trip, and, since he unfortunately was not carrying a bay window when he went over, the loss of the 40 pounds comes from spots that he cannot spare. His Mrs., who is a culinary artist of much renown, undoubtedly will soon have R. G. on the gain and back to his usual form.

Stockmen will want to hear about this trip, and it is hoped that R. G. can soon get out in the country.

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Oregon Cattleman Section

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May It Be Soon

WHEN THIS ISSUE REACHES YOU, the holidays will be over and another year will be started. It will mark the beginning of the third year of war for our country, and in spite of wishful-thinking optimists, the prospects for a quick ending of this world-wide conflict are not very bright. It will take more effort on the part of everyone to produce, to work, to save. To some folks it must be brought to their attention that there is no such thing as a good war, that profits, increased power, and greater wages must be paid for eventually in hard times and misery.

Unless the people of the world determine a course of action that will remove the causes of war and prevent such disasters, then civilization as we know it will pass from the earth. Our country is far from united. We have special groups who apparently are trying to use the disaster of war to further their own special interests. We have strikes and threats of strikes. Our domestic governmental policies are more a matter of whim than of reason. If our military forces were operated on the same haphazard scheme as the direction of some of our home policies, we would be defeated.

It is our firm belief that the vast majority of the people of this country are willing to do the things necessary to bring a victory, that they abhor strikes,

that mismanagement and profiteering are akin to treason, and that confusion at home must be brought to a speedy end.

One does not have to talk very long with returning servicemen to know that they are bitterly disappointed in home support and that when they all get back to this country they will do something about it.

In the meantime it is the sincere hope of the secretary of the association that the coming year will find the members of the organization, its friends and associates in good health and happiness; that sometime in the future—and may it be soon—we may all meet together in an atmosphere of peace and prosperity.

Subsidies and Soldiers

THE GREAT SUBSIDY DEBATE IS temporarily postponed, which probably means that the subsidy advocates will have their way more or less and politics rather than good reason will make the decision. Boiled down to a few words, this subsidy business means that future taxpayers will help pay our grocery bills of today. The subsidy advocates certainly have a lot of guts to ask that some soldier, marine, or sailor, fighting and sacrificing in the worst hell-holes on earth, come back, if he is lucky, and spend the rest of his life helping pay for food subsidies.

The principal advocates of food subsidies are the labor leaders, the Farmers Union, and their political yes-men. The labor leaders claim that unless food prices are held at present levels they will strike and demand higher wages. The political bigwigs who cater to these same unions naturally echo the same line, and following along with them are the ignorant and the misinformed.

The only possible argument in favor of a subsidy is increased production, and the best way to obtain that is by price increases. If the market value of scarce commodities is allowed to rise,

production will increase and the market will adjust itself to these increased supplies.

No beef-cattle producer has asked for a subsidy. All he wants is to be let alone. Certainly government regulation up to the present time has not been such a success in his particular case as to cause any demand for regimentation of the cattle industry, and that is the very thing that plenty of the government regulators want and are trying to put over—the complete control of the cattle business by government regulation. He will be told how many cattle to run and what kind, when to gather and when to ship, where to market and to whom to sell, and his returns will depend on a grade determined by a man who never saw a ranch and probably learned the business in some typewriter foundry in Philadelphia. The only thing the cattleman will be allowed is the privilege of paying the bills, and these bills will include a huge tax to pay for the various government regulators.

Fall Weather

A VASTLY MORE PLEASANT prospect than the various man-made troubles that afflict the world has been the fall weather. October rains plus some warm growing days started the grass, and plenty of cattle and sheep are still out on the hills. If a lucky owner has enough pasture, he can contemplate his haystacks with peace in his mind. Cattle are doing well. Some pretty fair beef has come off pasture the past two weeks, and that is some kind of record. Unless the weather turns tougher than a tobacco-chewing billy goat, there will be early beef, and, unless all signs fail, there will be plenty of demand for a few beef steaks along about April and May.

In line with the improved weather, plus \$1 a hundred on some classes of cattle, a feeder demand developed. Hay prices dropped and cattle went into the

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fattening pens. Grain prices are rising, but a lot of cattle will be fed good alfalfa hay, and when they reach the market the customers will eat them and say they are good.

It will take someone wiser than we are to figure just what will happen to the beef cattle market when the new subsidy goes into effect after the 25th of December. You can get about 10 different opinions from the first nine men you meet who have considered the regulation, and probably only time will determine just what will happen.

The Commodity Credit Corporation, which is one of the alphabetical agencies that administers the buying program for many articles and sets the price on most of them, dealt one right off the bottom of the deck recently when it advanced the price of feed wheat to \$1.29 a bushel in Oregon. Several hundred cars of wheat had been ordered and in some cases were en route when the price was suddenly raised. There were plenty of

complaints from the trade, but this agency, like most of the others, considers a complaint a compliment, and so nothing was done. This wheat program is going to cure a few more of the brethren of any desire for government operation of anything larger than a hand coffee mill. Some of this wheat is full of weed seeds, most of it is shipped on warehouse weights with a scandalous shrinkage, and some is a hard red type that is not too good for livestock feed. Not many cattlemen feed any wheat, so about all that they can do in this particular row is to offer to hold coats if anyone wants to fight.

The horse market is about sunk. Values are down to the point where the hide, mane, and tail are just about what is bid for the animal. The horse-killing plants are flooded with horses and most of the cayuse buyers are out of the market.

Klamath Falls is rapidly developing a great navy headquarters near town. One effect of the activities is to place around

3,000,000 acres of grazing land lying east of Lakeview into a bombing range. Cattle will be allowed to graze on this range until December and then the navy flyers will use it. Part of this range is used by Wm. Kittredge for his cattle.

A federal grand jury in Seattle recently indicted the James Henry Packing Co. and its president, O. B. Joseph, on 14 counts, charging that the company had collected percentages of the gross income from certain markets that it supplied with meats in an effort to evade OPA regulations. Mr. Joseph furnished bond and was released and later appeared and entered pleas of not guilty both for himself and the packing plant.

The OPA recently filed suit in San Francisco against Bissinger & Co., a widely represented dealer in hides, for \$237,946. The complaint charges the firm with having violated emergency price control regulations. The company is said to do a business of \$15,000,000 a year, about 80 per cent of the hide and skin business in the western states.

Livestock Feed In Europe

Livestock feed has become so scarce throughout Europe generally that pine needles and wood cellulose are being fed to cattle and sheep, according to a Forest Service report on European agricultural conditions. It is stated that pine needles, fed in combination with fodder-cellulose, contain sufficient protein, vitamins, and mineral salts to maintain cattle health. In Sweden and Norway stringent conditions have induced a new and thriving industry to spring up, that of manufacturing cattle feed from wood, with production exceeding 500,000 tons for the year 1942-43. *Collier's Weekly* reports also that sugar extracted from the wood comprises the major portion of a diet successfully used in feeding pigs in Sweden, at a cost of about 2 cents for a little over two pounds. A farmer who ordinarily feeds an oats ration to his cattle must replace up to 40 per cent of such ration with a specially treated paper fodder. "Such a diet," states the article, "reduces the production of milk about 25 per cent, but seems to cause little loss of energy in either horses or cattle." In Switzerland and other countries the artificial drying of grass by electricity, instead of the usual hay curing methods, is said to be in general practice so that the grass may be cut at an earlier stage of growth when proteins and other nutritive values are higher.

The Office of Defense Transportation is planning on another sign-up of users of agricultural gasoline. Probably it has never occurred to these people that this unnecessary sign-up is a waste of gas and tires.

The mortgage a farmer gives for a credit company loan is not really a first mortgage. Food for the family constitutes the first lien; the second one covers housing, clothing, other supplies; third come operating expenses like labor, twine, etc.; fourth, government taxes; fifth, interest on the so-called first mortgage; implement repairs, etc., rank sixth; reduction of the loan is a poor seventh; improvements to the place and profits are a dust-covered eighth.

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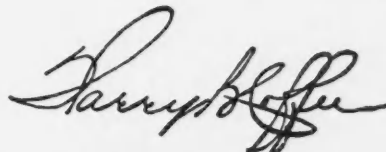


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PRESIDENT



Washington Notes

Something over \$163,000,000 was paid in meat subsidies for the six months the programs have been in operations, it was announced by Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones in early December. It is doubtful if consumers actually have benefited to "anywhere near" this extent, said a group of livestock representatives in a release demanding an immediate end to the "unwarranted" and "economically unsound" meat subsidy program. The attack was made by F. E. Mollin, executive secretary of the American National Live Stock Association; P. O. Wilson, Chicago, manager of the National Live Stock Producers' Association; Claude K. McCan, Victoria, Tex., president of Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association; and Will J. Miller, Topeka, Kan., secretary of Kansas Live Stock Association. The ultimate cost to the taxpayer, said the group, will far exceed any possible benefits therefrom. "It contributes to the continuing growth of bureaucracy at a time when citizens are demanding retrenchment, and the liquidation already evident in some branches of the livestock industry attests to the dangerous effect it is having upon livestock production. It is not too late to stop this unnecessary drain on the federal treasury and to restore confidence in the livestock industry, to the end that the necessary production may be maintained."

Continuation of the food subsidy program for 60 days pending final congressional decision was voted by the Senate Banking Committee. The committee had rejected a compromise proposal by Senator Robt. H. Taft which would have permitted expenditure of \$600,000,000 for subsidies but banned butter and meat rollback programs and fluid milk subsidies. The committee also turned down a bill for outright repeal. The talk now is that there probably will be a compromise.

War Food Administrator Marvin Jones announced a proposed order to become effective January 1, designed to bring about a better distribution of protein meal among stockmen and feed manufacturers. The order would limit to 110 per cent of 1942 manufacture the quantity of oilseed meals and animal protein that can be used by the manufacturers of mixed feeds. It would provide for a limitation, if necessary, upon the quantity of protein handled by retail dealers. Although most manufacturers

have co-operated in a fair distribution, it has been increasingly difficult for feeders in some areas and for many small feed mixers to get a normal quantity of protein meal. Administrator Jones said. The proposed order is designed to correct this situation. Even with record numbers of livestock, supplies of protein meal available this feeding year will be large enough, if properly distributed, to provide about the same amount of protein for each livestock unit as in the years prior to 1940, the food administrator said. The WFA is requiring processors of oilseeds to set aside 20 per cent of their January production of oilseed meal for distribution to areas designated by the agency.

Government estimates of all cattle and calf slaughter in 1943 is put at 10,103,000,000 pounds, compared with 9,980,000,000 pounds in 1942. Government figures showing federally inspected slaughter of cattle and calves for the first 11 months of 1943 are 10,527,000 and 4,682,000 head, respectively, compared with 11,365,000 and 5,284,000 respectively for the 1942 period. In 1942 federally inspected slaughterers killed 69.3 per cent of the total estimated cattle slaughter for the entire country; according to the estimated slaughter for this year, inspected plants got only 62.5 per cent; in 1942 inspected packers slaughtered 60.9 per cent of the calf total and in 1943 only 53.6 per cent. This difference, it is presumed, is to be chalked up to black market operations. It looks pretty much out of line—like an attempt to cover up falling beef production.

To put the brakes on land buying which it is reported is beginning to take on a tempo that may mean inflation of land prices as it existed back in the twenties, Senator Guy M. Gillette, Iowa, has introduced a bill which would require a transfer tax on sales of land made within one year after purchase date. Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard and Governor A. G. Black of the Farm Credit Administration have warned the public that we are in danger of a farm land boom that is already under way. Preliminary data published by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics indicates that the total value of voluntary transfers since last March is about 75 per cent over the corresponding period of 1942. An increase of 27 per cent in average farm land values over the 1935-39 figure is reported. However, North Dakota, South Dakota

and Nebraska values are still about 6 per cent below the 1935-39 average.

Farm machinery will be more plentiful in 1944. With the improved outlook, the War Food Administration intends to reduce the farm-machinery rationing program to a minimum number of items. . . . Manufacture of 2,000,000,000 ration tokens has been started. . . . Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard has predicted continued food rationing in this country for an indefinite period after the war because of the prospective demands on United States supplies for the feeding of other peoples. . . . The House Public Lands Committee in mid-December approved a bill by Representative Barrett of Wyoming to abolish the 221,000-acre Jackson Hole National Monument in Wyoming. . . . Slaughter quotas have been suspended indefinitely. This is in line with action asked by stockmen over the entire West. . . . A newly issued amendment from the War Production Board has restored suspender buttons to men's work pants.

With the release from federal quarantine on Dec. 1 of about 4,250 miles of territory in Florida and Texas, the United States approaches practical freedom from cattle ticks, a pest that once caused a \$50,000,000 annual loss.

Emergency Feed Suggestions

Silage or dry fodder roughage, if used alone, are not satisfactory rations for wintering beef calves, according to the animal husbandry division of the Kansas State College. If protein supplements like cottonseed and soybean cake or meal are not available, small quantities of grain make good substitutes. It is suggested that two pounds of grain per head per day, added to all the good quality silage or dry fodder that the calves will eat, should serve to winter them in fairly good condition.

Careful, sound management and feeding will be of major importance in helping beef cattlemen to get through the winter with little or no protein concentrate, according to A. L. Ward, educational director of the National Cottonseed Products Association. His recommendation is that if no protein is available, one pound of protein normally fed may be replaced in the ration by 3 to 4 pounds of legume hay; 2 pounds of ground oats, wheat or barley; 3 pounds of grain sorghum chops or corn meal; or 2½ pounds of ground velvet beans and pods. Better results may be secured, of course, if some protein concentrate can be used.

READERS! The PRODUCER wants to hear from you . . . if anything of interest has happened recently in your locality; if any incidents of a novel nature have come to your attention; if the weather has done something quite extraordinary or had some out-of-the-ordinary effect on affairs in your community; if you have anything to report that you think our other readers might like to hear about. . . . Drop us a note and tell us about it.

DEATHS

Thomas Timmons East

Death struck at Thomas T. East, prominent Texas cattleman, following a heart attack in early December. He was born in Archer City Dec. 19, 1889, and was taken to south Texas by his father, the late Col. Ed East, shortly thereafter. In 1915 Mr. East married Miss Alice Kleberg at Santa Gertrudis Ranch and later established interests at the San Antonio Viejo Ranch near Hebbronville, and operated this to the time of his death, which occurred during a visit to the Santa Gertrudis home of Mrs. East's mother, Mrs. Robert J. Kleberg, Sr. Mr. East was a strong supporter of any movement involving improvement of the cattle industry, was a member of the executive committee of the American National Live Stock Association, and for many years a director of the Texas and Southwestern Cattleman's Association. Survivors include, besides Mrs. East, two sons, a daughter, and three brothers.

A. E. deRicqles Dies at Denver

Alphonse E. deRicqles, well known Colorado cattleman and a member of the American National Live Stock Association since the organization was formed, succumbed in mid-December at his home after a short illness. Mr. deRicqles was 76 at the time of his death, having been born in 1867 at Yellow Springs, Ohio. During World War I he was a member of the Livestock War Board in Washington and served at that time also as president of the Denver council of Boy Scouts. He took an active interest in the affairs of 4-H Clubs, Future Farmers of America, and other youth groups. Surviving Mr. deRicqles is his wife, Mrs. Lillian H. deRicqles.

S. P. Delatour Dies

S. P. Delatour, of Lewellen, Neb., suffered a cerebral hemorrhage early in December while on a visit to relatives in New York, and died in that city at the age of 95. A widely known figure in western Nebraska livestock and banking circles for over 60 years, and long a member of the American National Live Stock Association, Sam Delatour came west in 1882 and participated actively in the handling of cattle up to the time of his death. He was born Sept. 15, 1848, in Granville, Wis., and had outlived his wife by 50 years. Three sons, S. V. Delatour, Lewellen; John M., Stockton, Cal.; and Ben C., of Sheridan, Wyo., survive. Interment was at Aurora, Ill.

Arthur M. Geary

Sudden death came in December to Arthur M. Geary in Portland, Ore. Mr. Geary, a freight rate attorney, had over a long period of years represented the Farm Rate Council, the Northwest Livestock Shippers' League, and other agricultural interests in the Northwest in many important rate hearings.

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Range Management Highlights

By David F. Costello, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Fort Collins, Colo.

Water containing salt is fit for use if it does not exceed the following general limits, as determined by the Geological Survey of South Australia, in ounces per imperial gallon: $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce—good for domestic use; 1 ounce—horses can keep in good condition; $1\frac{1}{4}$ ounces—horses can live; $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounces—cattle can live; $2\frac{1}{2}$ ounces—sheep can live.

* * *

A recent grazing trial with yearling steers at Cheyenne Wells, Colo., suggests that reseeded pastures may produce as much or more meat than native short-grass pastures in this area. In this test, made by the Colorado State College Experiment Station, it was found that Russian wild rye, a recently introduced species, was as fully utilized as western wheatgrass and blue grama. The pounds of beef per acre, May 3 to Aug. 3, were 30.36 for the reseeded pasture, and 19.10 for the native pasture.

* * *

Although mountain meadows in eastern Oregon and Washington constitute only 1 or 2 per cent of available summer range, they are capable of producing 10 to 15 times more forage per acre than adjacent timbered ranges. Mountain meadows studied by the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station had two-thirds or more of the ground surface covered by vegetation when the range was in excellent condition. The principal species is tufted hairgrass.

* * *

A study of the effects of different kinds of land use at the Soil and Water Conservation Experiment Station, Bethany, Mo., resulted in the estimate that the surface seven inches of soil would be lost in 10 years of fallowing, 16 years of continuous corn cropping, 99 years of rotation corn, wheat, oats and clover, or 4,000 years of a blue grass-timothy sod.

* * *

Santa Gertrudis, the first distinctive cattle breed developed in the United States, combines the excellent qualities of the Shorthorn with the ability of the Brahman to withstand excessive heat and to rustle on the range. Commercial herds of these cattle are now located in Texas.

* * *

Between Jan. 1 and Oct. 20, 1943, 247 range fires were reported in 22 eastern Colorado counties. These fires burned 105,860 acres of forage with an estimated loss of \$64,880. Four thousand, three hundred and four men were required to bring these fires under control. Carelessness and lack of organi-

zation for fighting such fires amount to sabotage.

* * *

Sagebrush control with a power take-off mower, equipped with an ordinary five-foot bar and special attachments, has resulted in grass improvement and increased beef production at the Southern Plains Experimental Range, Woodward, Okla. Mowing exposes more grass to grazing, facilitates stock travel over the pastures, reduces rodent infestations by exposing them to predators, and apparently prevents screwworm infections that develop when the skin of cattle is irritated by heavy brush.

* * *

On the basis of weight, thermal requirements, and feeding tests, five to six sheep are generally considered the equivalent of one cow. From the standpoint of proper use of vegetation, this ratio may be as high as 15 to one on certain types of forage.

* * *

Evidence of range abuse in previous years includes dead browse plants, grass clumps with dead centers, scarcity or absence of highly palatable plants, hedged appearance of shrubs, barren areas, and excessive number of trails. Evidence of current abuse includes grazing shrubs in excess of seasonal twig production, very close cropping of palatable plants, heavy use of coarse grasses, close grazing of secondary forage species, and trampling of knolls and creek banks.

* * *

It is generally believed that grama-buffalograss vegetation is a sub-climax maintained by grazing. Taller grasses are excluded under the present degree of use but would return and overshadow the short sod-forming species if livestock were entirely removed.

* * *

Poisoning of sheep, goats, and cattle by a fern, resulting in the so-called "Jimmies" recently has been described in a bulletin issued by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. The symptoms, which include violent trembling, are aggravated by walking and handling; consequently, animals are more likely to recover if left undisturbed.

* * *

The greater part of the grasslands in the hot plains of Colombia, South America, are natural savannahs, composed of grasses with little nutritive value which become very fibrous at maturity. Consequently they are burned frequently to provide fresh forage. This practice is destructive to both the plant cover and to soil fertility. Sowing of good herb- age appears to be the best solution.

A SYNOPSIS ON MEAT

(Remarks made by Harry W. Farr, chairman, National Live Stock and Meat Board, at semi-annual meeting in Chicago, Dec. 3, 1943.)

IN THE TWO YEARS (SINCE THE Japanese made their attack on Pearl Harbor) the livestock and meat industry has shown its ability to meet the demands of war. The government asked us for meat and more meat. The supplies of meat produced have broken all records.

A good deal of thought is being given these days to the post-war period. Most of us remember what happened after World War I. Meat consumption went down. Many interests were flooding the nation with anti-meat propaganda. It took years for our industry to recover. I am more hopeful concerning what may happen when the present war is over. In the first place, the government hasn't advocated "meatless days," as in World War I. We haven't heard as much about meat substitutes. Then, too, our people have a better appreciation of the value of meat in the diet. At the time of the first World War, most people thought of food only as something to satisfy hunger. Today homemakers and consumers generally know that our meals must supply those elements which build strong, healthy bodies.

I think that the National Live Stock and Meat Board can take credit for this changed attitude. Just 20 years ago this week the board's directors made the first appropriation for meat research. Those directors saw the need for meat studies. In all, we have conducted meat studies at 17 different institutions in 10 states. They have shown us the value of meat as a source of protein, iron, phosphorus, vitamins, and energy. They have shown us that lard furnishes many factors necessary for growth and the health of the skin. It's very fortunate that we have these facts. It has made it possible for us to fight for meat and to refute anti-meat propaganda whenever it comes to our attention. We're using the facts about meat in a national nutri-

All Wool and Two Feet High

The softest of all known animal fibers, which makes up into very expensive wool fabrics, is grown on the back of a sturdy little Peruvian animal called the vicuna. These small beasts stand about two feet high at the shoulder, live 14,000 to 16,000 feet above sea level in the Andes, and are related to the camel family. Hunting, which threatened to make the vicuna extinct, is now strictly regulated in both Bolivia and Peru, and the wool is sheared from the living animals, instead of from the slain carcass as in the past.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

tion program. We're using them in helping to solve the problems of the home-makers in connection with meat rationing.

In these times when so much meat is needed for our armed forces and our allies overseas, I think we're fortunate in having the results of meat cookery studies. Among the facts we have on hand are those which show the value of cooking meat at low temperature. We know that cooking meat at low temperatures saves from 2 to 3 ounces for every pound of meat cooked, and we know that meat cooked at low temperature is juicier, more tender, and tastes better than when high temperatures are used.

A mighty good job has been done in the past few months in exposing the attempts of some food economists and food faddists who would replace meat in the diet with grains, cereals and other foods. These foods have their place but not as meat substitutes. Our people want meat. And they don't want "synthetic" steaks. We have been told by these food economists that feeding grains to livestock is an inefficient practice—that it's more efficient to consume them direct. They forget that the livestock industry is the backbone of this nation's agriculture. This industry will never favor any policies which will hamper its operations—not while 55 per cent of our land is devoted to grass, not while more than 70 per cent of our land is suitable only for producing livestock. The work of our general manager and others in the industry in combating these policies seems to have been pretty effective.

It's needless to say that we have many problems to solve in preparing for the post-war period. Just recently representatives of the board, state and agricultural experiment stations, and the Department of Agriculture drew up a program of meat research which covers a wide field—meat production, meat processing, meat cookery, and other subjects.

It occurs to me that while we all realize the necessity of meat rationing, the rationing program should be more flexible. Right now with heavy hog receipts and the big increase in pork and lard supplies, pork and lard should be point-free, if only for a few weeks.

Our livestock and meat industry must be continually on guard. We have a product which has demonstrated its value in America's meals. We must continue to fight for meat—not for any selfish reasons, but because we realize that the future of this industry is closely linked with our national welfare and with the health and well-being of 134,000,000 consumers.

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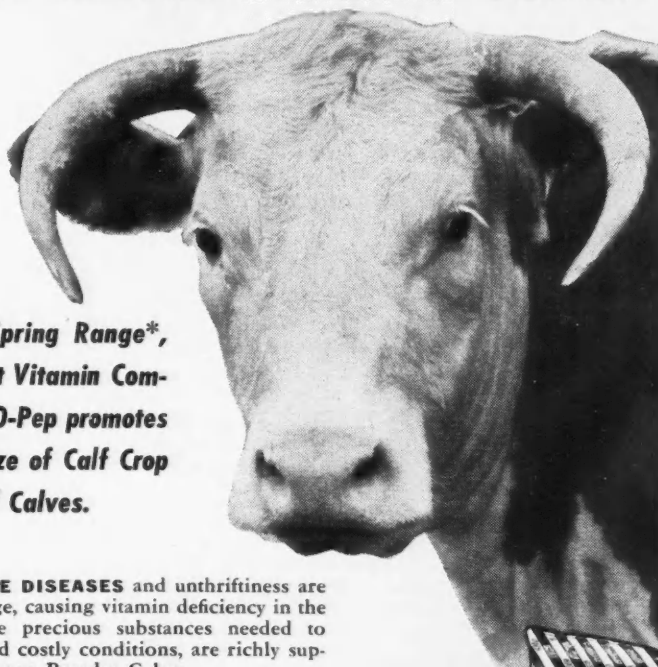
A FEW FACTS ABOUT LIVESTOCK IN ITALY

THOUGH 79 PER CENT OF THE land in Italy is hilly or mountainous, about 50 per cent of the productive area is worked with the plow and the spade, and 40 per cent is in pastures, woods, and forests. Motors supply only about one-third of the power employed in Italian agricultural operations. In terms of performance, however, livestock contributes 87 per cent of all the work. Among these various sources of power, cattle (72.2 per cent cows and

the remainder oxen and bullocks) are foremost. The use of this source of power is found to be most adaptable because of the rugged topography of the country in general, although in southern Italy and on the islands horses, mules, and asses are chiefly in use as draft animals.

Cattle are preferred for a number of economic reasons. For one thing, they are better able to live and work on the low-grade roughage of which much of the feed supply on individual farms consists. Then, too, they serve purposes in addition to that of furnishing farm labor. With the exception of

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some breeding stock used for producing rapid-gain calves and steers, beef cattle, as such, are almost unknown. In the north and around urban centers some dairy cattle are raised, these being mostly of the Brown Swiss and Holstein breeds. More than half the total feed production of the country, about 15,000,000 tons of hay per year, goes to feed the draft animals of Italy. Sheep and goats exist everywhere, but are of real importance south of the Po Valley; except for some large-scale production in the north, the raising of hogs and poultry is regarded mostly as a household enterprise.

Though still not extensive, increased use of machines in farming has in the past 40 years made significant changes in Italy's livestock population. The greatest decline has come in horses, mules, and asses, but cattle numbers have remained nearly level. Increased interest in land reclamation and agricultural pursuits has caused a considerable decrease in sheep numbers because of the lessening of winter pasturage for migratory flocks. Although goats had also suffered because of restrictions on forestland grazing, the year 1938, which saw an encouragement of wool production and abolition of goat taxes, brought about a noticeable recovery in goat numbers.

The foregoing statistics are taken from *Foreign Agriculture*, monthly publication of the Department of Agriculture Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Artificial Insemination

In a report on "Agriculture When the War Ends" the Department of Agriculture says that as trained technicians become available at the close of the war the practice of artificial insemination doubtless will be expanded rapidly. The practice is already beginning to be used in dairy cattle and it has recently been demonstrated as practical for range cattle. The idea of artificial insemination is not a new one. Arab horse breeders used the method, some writers say, in the fourteenth century, and it was used on bitches by an Italian in 1780. Other attempts to use the method were made but its practical application began to be recognized only at the beginning of the present century. A Russian in 1907 reported a series of successful inseminations. But after the close of the first World War experiments in Russia, England, and the United States started on a larger scale. Particularly in the Soviet Union has the method forged ahead. In that country in 1936 more than 6,000,000 cattle and sheep were artificially inseminated.

MARKETS

A MONTH OF RECORD STOCK MARKETINGS

By H. W. FRENCH

DISPOSITION OF HOGS WAS THE biggest problem in the livestock trade throughout the month, and this condition may remain with us for several months. Hogs held the spotlight because of the volume of the receipts at all major markets and at interior market centers, together with the congestion in the packing plants. Many markets reported liberal holdovers from day to day, and at some points where the clearance of farmer-owned hogs was complete, the packers were forced to carry hogs from day to day, often slaughtering on Sunday to catch up with the kill.

Several embargoes were in force at South St. Paul, and in other areas the hog committee put in many hours aiding the producers, sellers, and processors in an effort to avoid congestion and death loss. Recently results of all co-operative action has been felt, but the situation is precarious and needs continued attention on the part of all allied interests.

The November slaughter of hogs under federal inspection at 6,971,752 head established an all-time record, and there seemed to be no let-up early in December. A record slaughter of 1,248,000 hogs was reported during November in interior Iowa and southern Minnesota sections. The hog slaughter under federal inspection at the 27 centers during the week ending Dec. 4, was a record at 1,298,885.

Receipts of cattle and calves were liberal in November, and the market for both slaughter and feeder classes was very irregular. Federal cattle slaughter for the month was up 27 per cent from November, 1942, while the calf slaughter gained 25 per cent. Continued short country demand for calves was mainly responsible for the increase in calf slaughter, and many heifer calves were included in the purchases of the packers.

There was a heavy movement of replacement cattle into the Corn Belt during November, but despite this fact the number to be fed during the current winter season will not be up to a year earlier. The November movement was hardly up to the record November movement of 1942 but otherwise was the biggest on record for November. Total in-movement was 383,000 against 391,000 last November, but shipments from the markets were up 6,000, while the shipments direct from the ranges to the feed-lots fell down 15,000.

RECORD MARKETINGS

November cattle marketings were of record proportions for the month, and included a larger supply suitable for

stocker and feeder purposes. With a decline in prices for stockers and feeders in the face of a fairly uniform level for good and choice slaughter cattle, it was natural for the buying of unfinished cattle to be heavier. In November, 1942, cost of replacement stock was around the highest level of the year, while this November prices were at the year's low point.

Total shipments into the Corn Belt July through November were below last year, but larger than in 1941. For eight states the total of 1,562,000 stood 7 per cent under a year ago. Cattle feeding in states outside of the Corn Belt also will be smaller. Feed supplies in southwestern states are short and in that area the decrease in feeding will be relatively largest. Western states report the price of feed grains and hay to be higher relatively than in the Corn Belt states as compared with a year ago. The recent increase in the ceiling price of corn is expected to result in a gain in marketing of cattle with less than usual finish this winter.

Range offerings from Colorado and Wyoming continue marketward at a good pace for this late in the year, but other western offerings have been seasonally light. Cows and stocker and feeder classes predominated, while there was a relatively limited supply of grass-fat heifers for which there was a good packer demand. New Mexico and Texas have many cattle to unload, and the movement to the market has been steady.

Quality and finish of grain-fed cattle is going down at most market centers, and the run of short-feds certainly will increase during the next few months. West Coast buyers have been operating extensively in Colorado feeding areas, and this in itself will reduce the number of grain-fed steers and heifers showing any degree of finish at Denver and other markets farther east. Many farmer-feeders in the sugar beet area have been calling for pulp this year, while in previous seasons they passed up the percentage to which they were entitled.

For the week ending Dec. 4, choice and prime steers made up 33.2 per cent of the steers sold out of first hands at Chicago, with good 50.9 per cent, medium 11.8 per cent, and common 4.1 per cent. During the corresponding week in 1942 choice and prime represented 26.2 per cent, good 48.4 per cent, medium 24.6 per cent, and common only .8 per cent. The average price of all grades at \$15.14 stood 22 cents higher than a year ago. Choice and prime stood 26 cents below a year ago, while good was 21 cents up, medium 6 cents up, and common 18 cents up. During November, choice and prime constituted 35.7 per cent of the number sold, good 51 per cent, medium 10.9 per cent, and common

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2.4 per cent. The November average for all grades was \$15.10, with common \$10.64, and choice and prime \$16.04.

October production of linseed cake and meal was placed at 92,352 tons, bringing the July-October total to 308,083 tons compared with 286,931 tons a year earlier. October production of soybean cake and meal was 194,816 tons, making a July-October total of 879,896 tons against 616,383 tons for the corresponding period last year. Copra cake and meal production in October was 3,952 tons, making a four months' total of 12,728 tons as compared with 11,027 a year ago. Gluten feed and meal production in November was 80,622 tons from grindings for domestic shipments against 79,250 tons last November.

Grade control prices for cattle have not checked the paying of comparatively high prices for finished cattle, although there were weeks in Chicago when medium to good steers were off as much as \$1, the "rank and file" of such grades showing 50 to 75 cents' loss, in the face of little loss for the choice offerings. Other cattle fluctuated considerably during the past month but at mid-December fed steers and heifers were largely 25 to 50 cents higher than a month earlier, and there were instances of greater upturn. The ups and downs on cows equalized themselves, the market closing steady. Cannery and cutters which hit such a low spot a month or more ago advanced mostly 50 to 75 cents and were actively bought at the advance. Bulls averaged around 25 cents lower. Best vealers were steady but other grades favored a weaker side.

When choice to prime steers around 1,160 to 1,220 pounds reached \$17 they stood the highest since July, and some mixed yearlings fed with the \$17 steers scored \$16.60. There was a fair quota of highly finished steers at \$16.75 to \$16.90 but the big end of the good to

choice offerings landed at \$14.25 to \$16.50. Medium offerings frequently sold at \$12.50 to \$13. Most of the medium to choice grain-fed heifers sold at \$12.50 to \$15.75 but strictly choice topped at \$16.25. Common to good cows bulked at \$8.75 to \$11.25 and some good animals reached \$12 sparingly. Light and medium weight bulls often sold at \$8.50 to \$11, but most of the heavy arrivals scored \$11.50 to \$12, with best at \$12.35. Vealers reached \$15 most of the time although on the low spot little passed \$14.50.

Omaha reported a few loads of choice steers at \$16 to \$16.25 but most of the good to choice cleared at \$13.50 to \$15.50, and medium kinds went at \$12 to \$13.25. Good to choice heifers usually scored \$12.75 to \$14.75 but a few loads sold at \$14.85 to \$15. Most common to medium cows made \$8.50 to \$10.75 and good kinds were secured at \$11 to \$12.25, but few made \$12 and above. Bulls usually went downward from \$11, and vealers topped at \$14.50.

Medium to choice steers at Kansas City were quoted generally at \$12 to \$15.75 but some choice loads scored \$15.85 to \$16. Heifers bulked at \$12.25 to \$14.75 although highly finished heifers and mixed yearlings topped at \$16. Some good cows sold at \$11.50 to \$12.25, while common to medium bulked at \$8.75 to \$10.75. Better grade bulls made \$10.25 to \$11, and no vealers passed \$14.

Common to good steers at St. Joseph made \$10 to \$14.50, and best available sold at \$15.40 to \$15.60 but included nothing of top choice variety. Good to choice heifers made \$13 to \$15.25, and choice mixed yearlings \$15.10 to \$15.50. Common to good bulls sold at \$8.50 to \$11.25.

Some choice 1,506-pound steers at Sioux City made \$16.15, and other choice loads scored \$15.50 to \$16, with most good to choice at \$13.25 to \$15.25, and

medium lots at \$11.75 to \$13. Heifers were most numerous at \$11.75 to \$14 but strictly good and choice made \$14.50 to \$15.65. Good cows were taken at \$11.25 to \$12.25, and most of the common to medium at \$8 to \$10.75. Medium to good bulls with weight landed at \$10.50 to \$11.25.

Common choice steers at St. Paul were reported at \$8 to \$16, but a top of \$16.35 was registered. Highly finished mixed yearlings made \$16.25 to \$16.40, and heifers usually sold below \$15 although an outstanding 983-pound load reached \$16. Grass-fat steers sold as high as \$13. Medium to good bulls were taken at \$8.75 to \$10.75. Common to medium cows landed at \$7.75 to \$10, and some good offerings scored \$11.25 to \$11.50. Vealers reached \$14.

Choice to prime steers at \$16.75 at Denver stood the highest since 1920, and sales were not uncommon at \$16.50 to \$16.65. Other good to choice usually made \$14 to \$16.40, medium to good short-feds selling at \$12.85 to \$13.85. Medium to good grass-fat steers sold at \$10.50 to \$13, Mexicans occasionally making \$8.25 to \$9. Heifers at \$16.40 also were the highest since 1920, and several highly finished loads were taken at \$16.20 to \$16.35, most of the good to choice selling at \$14.50 to \$16. Best beef cows made \$12 to \$12.50, and most of the medium to good sold at \$10 to \$11.75, while common kinds were most numerous around \$9 to \$9.50. Common to good bulls bulked at \$8 to \$9.75, and best \$10. Not until late days did vealers reach \$12 but that price also was paid for choice heavy calves.

STOCKER DEMAND SPOTTED

Stocker and feeder demand around the market circuit was good and bad in spurts, although at Chicago where suitable offerings were not very liberal the outlet held up well unless in the case of



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steers the price was above \$13. Mid-December prices for steers were generally steady to 25 cents higher, while heifers averaged around 25 to 50 cents higher, cows showing little change on country account. Stock calves finished strong to 50 cents higher. There were some markets where calves found a much better outlet than a month and more ago but on the whole most men after replacement stock gave preference to the heavy yearlings and older steers, a condition which has changed little since early summer.

Average price of feeder and stocker steers at Chicago for November figured \$11.21 against \$12.59 a year ago, and

the average cost for July through November rested at \$12.04 this year against \$12.39 last year. The November average at Kansas City was \$10.97 against \$12.62 a year ago, while the five months' average cost was \$11.57 and \$11.91, respectively. Average cost at St. Paul for November at \$9.95 compared with \$11.08 a year earlier, and the figure for July through November stood at \$10.70 this year as compared with \$11.16 in 1942.

Fleshy feeder steers at Chicago sold at \$13 to \$13.50, but it was largely a \$10 to \$12.50 market for replacement steers. Omaha reported choice feeders up to \$13.40, and best yearling steers landed at \$13.05 to \$13.25. The good to

choice bulked at \$11.50 to \$13, and the common to medium usually sold at \$8.50 to \$11. Good to choice little heifers landed at \$10.25 to \$11.50, and common to good cows at \$7.50 to \$9.25. Fancy 411-pound steer calves made \$15, while good to choice kinds made \$12 to \$14, and best heifer calves \$11 to \$12.

Most of the medium to good steers went out from Kansas City at \$10 to \$12.50, and some choice loads scored \$12.75 to \$13.25, with an extreme top of \$13.50. Some yearling heifers sold at \$11.50 to \$11.65 but the medium to good kinds were taken largely at \$10 to \$11. Most steer calves sold at \$10.50 to \$12, and choice lots stopped at \$13, heifer calves selling at \$10 to \$11.75.

Medium to good steers at St. Paul were purchased at \$9 to \$12. Good steer calves made \$12 to \$12.50 and heifer calves sold at \$11.50 down. Common to good steers at St. Joseph were secured at \$9.50 to \$12.25, and best stock calves made \$13. Medium to good steers at Sioux City made \$10 to \$12, and common sold down to \$8, while choice loads landed at \$12.25 to \$13. Some heifers went out at \$10 to \$10.50, while medium stock cows made \$8 to \$8.50. Good to choice steer calves were obtained at \$12 to \$14.50, those at the top averaging 400 to 475 pounds. Better grade heifer calves landed at \$11 to \$12.50.

Both heavy yearlings and older feeder steers at Denver reached \$13.50, and the bulk of strictly good to choice steers went to the country at \$12 to \$13.25 although near the close comparatively good light yearlings were obtainable at \$11.50 to \$11.75. Common and medium steers bulked at \$9 to \$11.25. Outstanding heifers over 700 pounds topped at \$12.50 on country account, but few others passed \$11.50 and many sold at \$10 to \$11.25. Most of the common to medium cows went out at \$7 to \$8.75 with the good kinds with not too much age making \$9 to \$10. Steer calves from Wyoming topped at \$14.25 and others reached \$14 but most of the top kinds went at \$13.25 to \$13.75, comparatively good kinds early selling below \$12. Heifer calves occasionally scored \$12.65 to \$12.75 but most of the good to choice lots sold at \$11 to \$12.

PORK POINTS

Points on pork were reduced twice during the month in an effort to permit more liberal buying of pork. Support of the hog market did much for the producer and the good to choice offerings averaging 200 to 270 pounds continued to sell at \$13.75, the support price for Chicago. In some instances more of the medium to good hogs were available, many farmers preferring to sell their corn under the new ceiling price. Weights below 180 pounds showed more decline than those above 270 pounds.

Mid-December prices for 120- to 160-pound hogs at Chicago were generally 25 cents to \$1.50 lower than a month earlier, the lighter the hogs the greater the decline. Those from 160 to 200

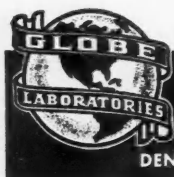


Changing Weather! Time to Guard Against "Shipping Fever" and Its Pulmonary Complications

During the cold, wet season the danger of pulmonary infection increases . . . and adequate precautions taken now may save many valuable animals later.

Globe Pasteurella-Pseudodiphthericum Bacterin is suggested as an aid in the prevention of Hemorrhagic Septicemia . . . commonly known as shipping fever . . . and its pulmonary complications, or pneumonia, due to the corynebacterium pseudodiphthericum organism. Remember . . . vaccination costs only a few cents a head . . . and the time to take precautions is before losses occur. Good herd management and proper feeds are essential.

Look for the Globe trade-mark . . . a mark of dependability



GLOBE LABORATORIES

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

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pounds looked steady to 40 cents lower, while those from 200 to 270 pounds held steady during the entire month. Heavier hogs averaged mostly 40 cents lower. Sows declined 35 to 50 cents for the period; pigs, 50 cents to \$1.25.

Although it was a one-price market—\$13.75—for good to choice 200- to 270-pound barrows and gilts, it was largely an \$11.50 to \$13.25 deal for the lighter hogs, and in the main those above 270 pounds sold at \$12.90 to \$13.25. Good to choice sows bulked at \$12.40 to \$12.75. Slaughter pigs were obtainable from \$10.25 down.

Cold storage holdings of pork were up from a month ago and the five-year average except the item pork, pickled in cure and cured, which was off from the five-year average. Lard holdings on Dec. 1 at 116,401,000 pounds were down over 10,000,000 pounds from a month earlier but more than doubled the holdings reported for Dec. 1, 1942, and stood over 9,500,000 pounds below the five-year average.

The total number of lambs to be fed this season is expected to fall short of a year ago but the reduction will be much less than seemed probable a month ago, according to a release by the Department of Agriculture. Had it not been for the marked reduction in the number of lambs finished on wheat pastures in Kansas the total for the Corn Belt would have been larger than a year ago but because of this condition the over-all

total for the Corn Belt will hardly be up to the record of 1942. There was a liberal movement of feeder lambs into the Corn Belt and western feeding areas during November.

FEEDER INSPECTION LARGE

The number of feeder lambs inspected through stockyards in November was the largest in 20 years, while the number direct from the ranges stood larger than a year ago for the first time since June. The in-movement for July through November for eight Corn Belt states, not including Missouri, South Dakota, and Kansas, totaled 3,026,000 against 2,916,000 a year ago. Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, and Nebraska showed an increase; Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan a decrease; and Wisconsin, Missouri, and South Dakota showed little change.

Volume of feeding in Colorado will be only slightly below a year ago, while some time ago it appeared as though this state would be short 15 to 20 per cent. Northern Colorado will feed about the same number as last year, and in the Arkansas Valley feeding operations will be much above early indications. New Mexico, Utah, and Idaho will not have the sharp decreases expected a month ago, while increased feeding operations are reported in California and Nevada. There is a large increase in the Imperial Valley, where many out-of-state lambs are being finished on alfalfa pastures, and this will more than offset the de-

creases in other parts of California. Montana feeding operations may not be much below a year ago.

Slaughter of sheep and lambs under federal inspection in November was up 11 per cent from a year ago, and the 11-month total of 21,104,862 showed a gain of 9 per cent compared with the corresponding time last year. Receipts at the principal markets have slackened somewhat after the turn into December, and current supplies consisted largely of fed western lambs, although at some points native lambs predominated. Many of the lambs are heavier than normal but that may be because they went into the feed-lot at heavier weights than in other years.

The market for slaughter sheep and lambs showed gradual improvement and at mid-December lambs looked mostly \$1.25 to \$1.75 higher than a month earlier, ewes and yearlings displaying an average upturn of \$1.25. Many of the top ewes were fed westerns and they found a broad outlet with fluctuations not so noticeable as in the lamb division of the trade.

Medium to good lambs at Chicago sold largely at \$13.25 to \$14.50 but the good and choice kinds were most numerous at \$14.25 to \$14.75 and there were a few loads of westerns taken at \$14.85 to \$14.90. Shorn lambs with number 1 pelts sold usually at \$14 to \$14.35. Medium to good fat ewes bulked at \$5.50 to \$6.75 but many of the choice loads made

what's good for the **breeder**



is good for the **feeder**

what's good for the feeder

is good for the **producer**

SO it all gets back to you, Mr. Cattleman, for the end of all cattle is the butcher!

The proof of the pudding is in the eating."

Below is WHR's CHAMPION steer over all breeds at Ogden Live Stock Show.

WHR TRUE MOLD—and true to name.



Your purpose, and ours, is to improve beef quality. To paraphrase Swift & Company's advertisement, "There is never a year when quality is unprofitable; and never a year when lack of quality pays." Maybe hard to believe right now, but the day will come when quality will pay off big.

**Use WHR bulls
for best results!**

WYOMING HEREFORD RANCH

Cheyenne

\$7 to \$7.25 and best reached \$7.50. Yearling wethers sold chiefly at \$12 to \$13 but the top rested at \$13.25.

Comparatively few feeder lambs were available at Chicago although some medium to strictly good lots landed at \$10 to \$12.25, and best reached \$12.50. Demand improved at Omaha where the market finished steady to 50 cents higher, good to choice selling at \$11 to \$12.50, and mixed fats and feeders at \$12.60 to \$13. Medium 53-pound kinds had to sell at \$9.75. It was largely a peddling market at Denver following a recent broad demand and bulging prices, and with northern Colorado men showing little interest late the prices slumped 75 cents to \$1. Good to choice 55- to 70-pound feeder lambs were secured at \$10.50 to \$12.25, but mixed fats and feeders above 80 pounds were reported at \$12.50 to \$13.10.

WOOL AND HIDE TRADE

By H. W. F.

THE TOTAL WEIGHT OF FINE and half blood domestic wools not owned by manufacturers or topmakers is between 170,000,000 and 180,000,000 pounds, compared with 27,000,000 pounds in December, 1942. This large carryover in a year in which consumption of both domestic and foreign wool will be close to 1,000,000,000 pounds, grease basis, was the result of the lower prices at which foreign wools are avail-

able. Stocks of domestic fine and half blood grease wools owned by manufacturers at the end of September totaled 40,000,000 pounds as compared with 76,000,000 pounds a year earlier.

Dropping of practically all restrictions on use of raw wool for civilian goods had very little effect on the market, due in part to an announcement by the War Production Board that quotas on men's, women's, and children's clothes remained unaffected. The peak of army requirements, it is now apparent, was reached some months ago. Manufacturers are now running on the largest percentage of civilian orders, due to the lower prices at which foreign wools of comparable grade can be purchased.

Reports from South America indicate a rapidly growing textile industry. The home consumption of wool in Argentina for 1942 was 110,000,000 pounds as compared with 55,000,000 pounds in 1939. Uruguay and Australia have reported similar rapid growth in their home textile industries. A better shipping situation from Montevideo with earlier delivery dates has tended to lower spot prices on these wools and raise prices in the primary markets.

Appraisals of wool for purchase by the Commodity Credit Corporation up to December 4 totaled 229,324,901 pounds. Holders of wool are reported making a special effort to have their wools ready for appraisal before the close of the year.

Manufacturers are very reluctant in accepting orders for civilian cloth pending a clarification of future requirements for lend-lease and the rehabilitation program. The Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation stated that it has entered the market for purchase of 54,000,000 yards of cotton and mixed cotton and wool cloth. It was stated that very little virgin wool would be used in these orders.

There was a demand for medium wool for blankets, and sales of free and Commodity Credit Corporation wools were reported. Preference was shown by manufacturers for short staple wools for use in the woolen system, but some transactions in staple lots were consummated. Occasional sales were reported of fine staple and half blood graded wools for piecing out previous purchases for old quartermaster orders requiring the use of domestic wools.

Many manufacturers and topmakers are operating on a "hand-to-mouth" buying basis, as far as domestic wools are concerned, as they know that prices will not go higher at a later date, with the ample stocks of wool on hand.

Foreign wools continued in fairly active demand, with interest shown in all offerings on which delivery could be promised in the near future. War risk insurance rates were further reduced on shipments of wool from Australia, New Zealand, South America, and South Africa.

NATIONAL WESTERN HEREFORD SALE

The Time: Tuesday & Wednesday
Jan. 18 and 19, 1944

The Place: Lamont Sale Pavilion
Denver, Colorado

The Consignment: 350 Head
Bulls and Females

Sale offers excellent opportunities for selection
Denver Sales noted for Herd Bull Prospects and
Foundation Females

QUALITY IS ALWAYS PARAMOUNT AT DENVER

80 BREEDERS FROM 14 DIFFERENT STATES ARE CONSIGNING CATTLE.

Females sell Tuesday at 9:00 a. m.

Bull sale follows—In event all bulls are not sold Tuesday,
bull sale will be continued Wednesday at 1:00 p. m.

DON'T MISS THIS OUTSTANDING HEREFORD EVENT

Catalogs mailed upon request only

American Hereford Association

300 WEST 11TH ST.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

ARIZONA HEREFORD BREEDERS ANNUAL All-Star Selection Sale FEB. 5 AT TUCSON 100 HEREFORDS

Approved by a sifting committee of competent judges

This Offering
Will
Consist of: **30 Herd Bull Prospects**
16 Heifers
54 Range Bulls (to be sold in Pens of 3)

CONSIGNORS

HALTER CLASSES		PENS OF BULLS	
Ranch	No. Head	Ranch	No. Head
Rancho Sacatal, Paul Spur—W. E. Holland, owner	8	Las Vegas Ranch, Prescott.....	3
Las Vegas Ranch, Prescott—John A. Thompson, owner	2	Long Meadow Ranch, Prescott.....	9
Long Meadow Ranch, Prescott—Robert Wilson, owner; Jack Dew, manager	10	Cowden Livestock Co., Phoenix and Willcox.....	6
Steeple X Ranch, Springerville—Bill Spence, owner	2	Rail X Ranch, Patagonia.....	6
White Mountain Hereford Ranch, Springerville—Dr. and Mrs. J. Victor Donnet, owners	4	Haskell and Hathaway, Tucson.....	6
Suncrest Hereford Ranch, Phoenix—Western Farm Management and Dr. E. L. Scott, owners	7	Steeple X Ranch, Springerville.....	3
Rail X Ranch, Patagonia—D. C. Jeffcott, owner	11	W. D. Wear, Willcox.....	3
University of Arizona, Tucson.....	2	Jay 6 Ranch, Benson.....	3
	46	Heady and Ashburn, Patagonia.....	6
		Arrowhead Ranch, Dos Cabezas.....	9
			54

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Feb. 4— 9 a.m. Judging pens of bulls.
10 a.m. Judging halter classes.
Feb. 5— 1 p.m. Sale of halter classes.
4 p.m. Sale of pens of bulls.
Feb. 6—10 a.m. Horse Show.
2 p.m. World's Champion Quarter Horse Races, Rillito Race Track, Tucson, under auspices of Southern Arizona Horse Breeders Assn. M. H. Haskell, secretary.

Feb. 7—Sun Valley Hereford Ranch Cattle Sale, Phoenix.
Sifting Committee: Dr. E. L. Scott, Tom Rigden, Bill Spence, Ralph McCall.
Auctioneer: Col. Art Thompson.
Cattle Judge: Herb Chandler.
Correspondence and Catalog Requests: E. B. Stanley, University of Arizona, Tucson.

Australian fine scoured staple wool sold at a delivered mill price of \$1.09. Good Australian fine staple grease wools sold in a clean price range of \$1.06 to \$1.10 out of bond. Montevideo spot wools continued to sell at a premium over wools on which no definite shipping date has been set. Spot lots of all grades sold in bond grease price range of 40 to 42 cents.

Pulled domestic wools were in demand, especially of the short three-eighths and half blood grades. Sales of the latter were made up to two months ahead of delivery. Sales were made at appraisal prices of \$1.10 to \$1.12 for average lots, and \$1.14 to \$1.16 for choice lots.

Mail-order houses report an increase in men's clothing orders of 22.1 per cent, and an increase in orders for women's clothing of 17.1 per cent over 1942. Inventories of men's clothing are down 22.7 per cent, and women's up 26.8 per cent.

Medium fleece wools sold at appraisal figures. Graded fine, average staple figured 42.55 and 43.29 cents, grease basis; half blood staple, 47.15 cents; three-eighths staple, 54.08 cents; and quarter blood staple, 50.60 and 52.90 cents. Missouri fine clothing brought 40.68 cents, three-eighths staple, 54.08 cents; quarters blood staple, 54.72; and three-eighths and quarter blood lamb, 48.88 cents. Ohio fine staple made 47.19 cents; delaine staple, 48.40 cents; fine

clothing, 41.31 cents; half blood staple, 51.04 cents; and three-eighths staple, 55.12 cents.

Very little territory fine wools are being sold to mills. Original bag Montana fine, average staple was appraised at 49.14 cents, with shrinkage 58 per cent. Washington wools were as follows: fine and average staple, 41.65 cents; fine and fine medium, 45.63 cents; three-eighths staple, 44.10 cents; quarter blood staple, 45.12 cents, and low quarter blood, 44.16 cents.

Some Texas free wools are reported at prices several cents, clean basis, below ceilings. No Commodity Credit Corporation held wools were reported sold. Fine staple, 12 months wool were appraised at \$1.16 to \$1.21, clean basis; grease prices, 44.08 to 49.61 cents. A lot of half blood average staple brought 50.60 cents.

Mohair deliveries continued on past sales of sorted type but new business was slow. Some interest was shown in South African mohair but little dealing was reported. Some demand was noted for kid (36's) top at \$1.43.

HIDES FEATURELESS

No features were reported in the hide market, although supplies were seasonally larger, but production the remainder of the year is certain to be on the decline. It has been hard to get shipments out due to the shortage of manpower.

It has been the policy to build up a backlog of hides in original hands to carry tanners through the later period of lighter slaughter. The War Production Board has increased hide permits to permit tanners to build up inventories for the year's end. Recently there has been a smaller carryover by the small packers as the bulk of the increase in slaughter has been confined to the large packers.

There has been considerable activity in the South American hide market, and increased buying by Anglo-American interests is expected. Exports of salted hides from Argentina the first seven months of the year were placed at 62,000 tons, a decrease of 15 per cent from 1942. Of this volume the United States took 61 per cent against 53 per cent a year earlier.

Domestic sales have been at ceiling levels throughout the month, and quotations are as follows: heavy and light native steer and cow, 15½ cents; branded cow and steer hides, 14½ cents; and native bull, 12 cents. Packer calfskins were quoted at 27 cents and packer kipskins at 20 cents.

Country hide trade continued irregular and at times this class of hides was well cleared. Dealers frequently were selling in advance of accumulation. Quotation for native hides, all-weights, and for extremes, 28 to 42 pounds, was 15 cents, and for branded type of hides, 14 cents.

Consigned to the Denver Show and Sale 1 Yearling Bull and 5 Females

BULL—Donation Mischief. An outstanding May yearling, son of the champion, Dandy Donation, dam by Dandy Domino, she from the same cow as the Nebraska 1942 Futurity Reserve champion female. His second dam has more winnings through her offspring than any cow we own.

COW—Princess Mischief 25th. May yearling, grand champion female at the 1943 Chadron Hereford Show, daughter of Dandy Donation, dam by Clayton Domino 2nd, sire of the 1942 Nebraska Futurity grand champion bull and selling for \$4,000, by Evan Domino.

COW—Roberta Mischief 22nd. September yearling, by Dandy Donation, dam grandmother on dam's side of Roberta Mischief 27th, heifer previously mentioned in this ad.

COW—Vera Donation 8th. December yearling by Battle Mischief 7th, Jr., dam by Bright Domino, second dam by Mischief Domino, Jr., and from the Vera cow family... one of our best.

COW—Beauty Stanway 12th. Summer yearling by Evan Domino, dam by Dandy Domino, second dam by Clayton Domino; mother of full brothers who were reserve champions at two of our association sales.

COW—Roberta Mischief 27th. August yearling, by Baron Domino 4th, Jr., dam by Advance Domino Mischief, second dam a top cow by Clayton Domino 4th, thickest son of Clayton Domino.

The Dam of the 1943 Nebraska Chadron Hereford Show champion bull was bred by us. Our record at the Chadron show included firsts, seconds, and thirds in bulls and females, and champion pens of bulls and heifers. At Broken Bow our record was first pair of calves, second senior bull calf, and second senior heifer calf.



PRINCESS MISCHIEF 25th

HUBERT H. FORNEY & SON, Lakeside, Neb.

VIEWS AND OPINIONS FROM EAST OF PEORIA

By DAVID I. DAY

THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN farseeing cattle folks in the Indiana counties of Newton, Jasper and Benton. In that district the disconcerted feeling as to the future of cattle feeding is not so pessimistic as in the past. Many told me recently they believed the situation would clear up considerably in 1944, possibly in the next few months. If signs after the holidays intensify this sentiment, many will be back with more cattle on feed.

It was estimated that there were in the first week of December about 60 per cent as many cattle on feed as in December, 1942. However, several were talking of plans to buy western calves just before or just after the holidays, taking advantage of any lower prices that may appear. Not so much talk of overpriced calves this trip, as the costs were lower. All in all, it looks as though the comparative percentage will be higher in this locality by the middle of January.

Fairly good interest was reported as regards club interest in this territory in 1943 but the tendency of the boys and girls seemed to be toward slower buying for 1944, reflecting the adult sentiment everywhere. The old uncertainty is felt in all channels and in all localities, waning just a little but still present.

We certainly hope the calf club work does not suffer unduly because of conditions, as many of the best young feeders and breeders in this part of the Hoosier state got their start and their inspiration from this kind of work, the influence spreading to the older folks, too.

Traveling westward to Peoria on U.S. 24 from Kentland, Ind., we were in excellent livestock territory all the way. Interviews with farmers showed a sincere desire to co-operate if possible with all the 1944 wartime efforts to produce and conserve food but they do not know what steps to take with any measure of safety. It's the old story all along that highway—the feeling that the important decisions at the top are made by federal officials who lack the experience and vision truly to appreciate the situation as it is now affecting the American farmer.

The feeders of western calves feel that they have "taken the rap" this year, as the saying goes. But as a class they are beginning to feel a new optimism. Somehow the impression has got around, probably correctly, that the arbitrary and artificial price ceilings on finished livestock at the markets are so manifestly ineffective that there will be revisions in the months ahead. Visited a few purebred breeders of Angus, Shorthorns, and Herefords in Illinois. They feel better about 1943 as it draws to a close than do the com-



Beef Cattle Still Sell By THE POUND

Fancy feeder prices mean little if you haven't the weight per head on your calves and yearlings. PAINTER BULLS put that weight there. Put quality, too, and uniformity. Here you can buy uniformity in quantity. Here you can buy one or a carload or a hundred bulls backed by nearly a half century of breeding for WEIGHT FOR AGE.



Big outfits and little use PAINTER BULLS. A recent buyer: Waggoner Estate, Vernon, Tex., taker of 40 yearlings. Another: William Noble, Burrell, Calif., taker of most of our Los Angeles offering. A surprising percentage of our buyers are REPEAT CUSTOMERS. There's a reason.

PAINTER BULLS MEET TODAY'S NEEDS TODAY!

PAINTER HEREFORD COMPANY, ROGGEN, COLO.

FIGHT GRUB
AND OTHER LIVESTOCK PESTS

With An
**AUTOMATIC CURRYING
& DIPPING MACHINE**

A low cost, labor saving way to rid livestock of grub, lice, flies, etc. Stock treat themselves. Keeps livestock sleek. Cattle gain faster. Built to last a lifetime.

Write for **FREE FOLDER**

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Livestock

American Cattle Producer, \$1; Arizona Stockman, \$1.50; The Cattleman, \$1; Florida Cattleman, \$1; National Live Stock Producer, 50c; Texas Live Stock Journal, \$1; NRA Round-Up (rodeos), 50c; The Sheepman, \$1; New Mexico Stockman, \$1; Breeder-Feeder (Brahmans), \$1; Pacific Stockman, \$1.

Horses

National (saddle) Horseman, \$5; Chronicle (weekly, breeding, fox hunting, racing, shows), \$5; Horse (breeding, schooling, training, sports), \$5; Saddle and Bridle, \$4; Thoroughbred (horse) Record, weekly, \$4; Rider & Driver, (horses, sport, pleasure), \$3.50; Iowa Horseman, \$2; Palomino Horse, \$1.50; Spokesman & Harness World, (2 yrs., \$2), \$1; Bit & Spur, \$1.50.

Dairying

Dairyland News, s. m., 50c; Dairyman's Journal, 50c; Dairy Farmer's Digest, \$1.

Bees

Gleanings in Bee Culture, \$1; Beekeeper's Item, \$1; American Bee Journal, \$1.

Farming

American Farm Youth, 75c; Fletcher's Farming, 50c; Co-operative (farmers') Digest, \$2.

Goats

American Dairy Goat News, \$1; Goat World, \$2 (6 mos., \$1).

Pigeons

American Pigeon Journal (squab fancy), \$1.50; Pigeon News (fancy only), \$1.50.

Poultry

Northeastern Poultryman (2 yrs.), \$1; Cackle & Crow, \$1; Pacific Poultryman, 50c; Bantam Magazine, \$1.

Rabbits

Small Stock (rabbits, cavies, exclusively), \$1; American Rabbit Journal, \$1; Am. Sm. Stock Farmer (rabbits only), 50c.

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Better Fruit, \$1; Eastern Fruit Grower, \$1.

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The Soybean Digest, \$1.50; New Agriculture (sugar beets only), \$2; American Fur Breeder (mink, etc.), \$1; Small Commercial Animals and Fowls, 50c; Southern Sportman, q., (12 issues), \$1.50.

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**ATTEND AMERICAN NAT'L
CONVENTION AT DENVER
JAN. 13-15**

mercial cattle feeders. They have had a brisk demand. The breeding stock prices at auctions and at private treaty have been rather profitable. There was talk in spots that some animals had gone for breeding stock which just a few years ago would certainly have made their way to the stockyards.

There is always an element of danger in the days when breeding stock is in strong demand. Often the breeder can sell a pedigreed animal at a price in excess of the value on the scales. Some will take the money and still the voice of conscience. Others—the more far-sighted ones—will hew to the line closely. One of the real Hereford breeders in northern Illinois said on this trip: "I never sell a bull or heifer as registered breeding stock if it is not good enough for me to use if I needed the animal. You lose immediate money by this practice but in the years ahead it will all come back to you with interest compounded."

The same principle applies to furnishing club calves. Unless the animals are good ones, there will be mighty few prizes won. The club boy will be disappointed and discouraged and whatever the breed is or whoever the breeder is, both will get a "black eye."

However, I have never visited a section of country where the right principles prevail any more uniformly in the beef cattle business than in northern Illinois. The cattle feeders utilize modern equipment and modern feeding knowledge quite generally. More farmers there than in most sections like to feed choice stuff as a matter of pride. I noted in Chicago recently at the livestock show the fine club calves from these counties, one youth especially winning a grand championship twice in two years. A part of the credit for this excellence must go in justice to breeders, too, because in every county they are found to provide the club boys and girls with the prize-winning kind.

More and more, the cattle grazing season lengthens in this part of the country. Beef cattle were running on alfalfa, on mixed pasture, on bluegrass that was not grazed in late summer, on small grain fields. I noted, too, that while the weather was mild and pleasant, the herd owners were not unaware that swift storms may strike at any time now. A number of farms had fodder and hay up close around the barn so the animals would not be tempted to stray too far away. With feed in the barn and sheds, with fuel for home use all stored, it looked as if these folks were "all set" for wintry winds.

Not all the stockers on feed this winter along U.S. 24 and side trails are good stuff, however. On a farm owned by a Chicago man and operated by a tenant named McClellan was a bunch of cattle somewhat unique because of its diversity, the nucleus being 24 head of yearlings from somewhere in Missouri. Added were some mixed breed cattle, some with dairy inheri-

ance, and some young mongrel cattle purchased in southern Illinois, about 70 head in all. They are thin but making a gain of possibly a half pound daily all over, and the objective was to get rid of a lot of corn stover and non-legume hay that is mixed and weedy. Mr. McClellan said he figured this otherwise valueless roughage would constitute 40 per cent of the intake. The rest will be lespedeza and alfalfa hay and corn silage.

"In early spring, I will turn this thin bunch of steers on 40 acres of oats," explained Mr. McClellan. "Later on alfalfa and bluegrass, back on another farm owned by the owner of this place—and there we plan to have a considerable acreage of Sudan grass. We don't know yet to what extent we will fatten on grain. Possibly a very short feed, if any, depending on their condition. Present plans call for the purchase of about 40 good-to-choice western calves for next spring. They will go on oats and pasture like this bunch but will have a little better roughage next winter, maybe. Comparing the two bunches from all angles we will know which makes the most clear money—common cattle or good cattle." The idea is to make one-third of the gain this winter with these "odds-and-ends" cattle, and two-thirds of the gain next summer on good pasture.

A great many cattle, poor and good, have been running the stalk fields as usual in Illinois and Indiana. Many of the cattle have already been brought in and are making a nice showing on alfalfa and other legume hays. The scene is much the same as last December save there are not quite so many cattle on the fields—in some communities not over half the usual number. If the market uncertainty clears up, it looks as though everything will be back to normal in 1945. If the war ends, the cattle situation will not be affected, good cattle feeders declare, as the market for meat will be strong for years to come.

A letter received at Peoria told of progress made in the Kentucky country, south and east of Cincinnati. One farm was mentioned specifically—that owned by Walton Fulton and his son, Stanley. A part of the land is in Fleming County, a part in Robertson County. Recently, they shipped 23 fat calves which brought them a check for over \$2,000. The cows on this farm are smooth commercial stuff, the bulls used are low-set registered animals. The introduction of the best obtainable bulls there has increased the value of each calf at market time by about \$20, it is said. On a herd of over 50 cows, this sort of livestock improvement certainly pays dividends.

The letter stated also that stockmen in that locality feel that the worst is over in the beef business and that more sensible regulations will be in use this time next year and before—a feeling which is widespread in Indiana and Illinois and which is having a definitely stabilizing effect.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

LIVESTOCK AT STOCKYARDS

RECEIPTS—	November		First Eleven Months	
	1943	1942	1943	1942
Cattle*	2,135,041	1,779,557	16,681,414	16,659,368
Calves	682,201	755,294	5,230,813	6,154,959
Hogs	4,680,771	3,309,512	36,473,434	30,190,541
Sheep and Lambs	3,207,934	2,779,743	28,153,870	25,832,199
TOTAL SHIPMENTS†—				
Cattle*	1,149,394	944,745	8,625,912	7,309,751
Calves	261,262	389,962	2,207,529	2,570,564
Hogs	1,100,864	820,999	9,920,779	7,555,905
Sheep and Lambs	1,644,233	1,363,454	13,834,455	12,772,550
STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS—				
Cattle*	583,387	556,068	3,955,548	3,699,777
Calves	96,488	180,921	706,247	994,463
Hogs	81,415	62,300	792,027	574,336
Sheep and Lambs	728,276	589,380	4,820,529	4,463,898
SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION—				
Cattle*	1,290,000	1,018,000	10,527,000	11,365,000
Calves	625,000	501,000	4,682,000	5,284,000
Hogs	6,972,000	5,023,000	55,864,000	47,120,000
Sheep and Lambs	2,370,000	2,126,000	4,321,106	19,451,000

*Exclusive of calves. †Includes stockers and feeders.

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT

FRESH BEEF AND VEAL—	New York		Chicago	
	Dec. 15, 1943	Nov. 15, 1943	Dec. 15, 1942	
Steer—Choice (700 lbs. up)	\$21.50-22.25	\$21.50-22.25	\$20.75-22.25	
Steer—Good	20.50-21.25	20.50-21.25	19.00-20.50	
Steer—Choice (500-700 lbs.)	21.50-22.25	21.50-22.25	20.75-22.25	
Steer—Good	20.50-21.25	20.50-21.25	19.00-20.50	
Yearling Steer—Choice	21.50-22.25	21.50-22.25	20.75-22.25	
Yearling Steer—Good	20.50-21.25	20.50-21.25	19.00-20.50	
Cow—Commercial	18.50-19.25	18.50-19.25		
Veal—Choice	21.50-22.25	21.50-22.25	21.25-22.75*	
Veal—Good	20.50-21.25	20.50-21.25	19.00-21.00*	
FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON—				
Lamb—Choice (all weights)	26.00-26.75	26.00-26.75	25.00-28.00	
Lamb—Good	24.50-25.25	24.50-25.25	25.00-28.00	
Ewe—Good	12.00-13.25	12.00-13.25	21.00-24.00	
Ewe—Commercial	10.00-12.00	10.00-12.00	19.00-22.00	
FRESH PORK CUTS—				
Loin—8-12 lbs.	25.25-26.00	25.25-26.00	27.00-28.25	

*Veal and calf.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK PRICES

	Dec. 15, 1943	Nov. 15, 1943	Dec. 15, 1942
Slaughter Steers—Choice (1,100-1,500 lbs.)	\$16.00-17.00	\$15.50-16.60	\$15.50-16.50
Slaughter Steers—Good	14.00-16.00	13.50-15.50	14.00-15.50
Slaughter Steers—Choice (900-1,100 lbs.)	15.75-16.75	15.50-16.50	15.00-16.25
Slaughter Steers—Good	13.75-15.75	13.50-15.50	14.00-15.50
Slaughter Steers—Medium (700-1,300 lbs.)	11.50-14.00	10.50-13.50	11.25-14.00
Fed Young Steers—Gd.-Ch. (700-900 lbs.)	13.75-16.50	13.25-16.00	13.50-15.75
Heifers—Good-Choice	13.75-16.00	13.00-15.50	13.00-15.25
Cows—Good	11.00-12.00	11.00-12.00	11.50-12.50
Vealers—Good-Choice	13.50-15.00	14.00-15.00	13.50-15.50
Calves—Good-Choice	10.50-12.00	11.00-12.00	12.00-14.00
Feeder and Stocker Steers—Good-Choice	11.50-13.25	11.75-13.25	12.50-14.25
Feeder and Stocker Steers—Com.-Med.	9.00-11.50	8.25-12.25	9.75-12.50
Hogs—Medium Weights (200-240 lbs.)	13.75 only	13.75 only	13.90-14.05
Lambs—Good-Choice	14.25-14.75	12.50-13.50	15.00-15.50
Yearling Wethers—Good-Choice	12.25-13.25	11.00-12.00	13.00-14.25
Ewes—Good-Choice	6.25- 7.25	5.25- 6.00	7.40- 8.35

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

	Dec. 1, 1943†	Nov. 1, 1943	Dec. 1, 1942	Five-Yr. Av.
Frozen Beef	169,846,000	120,820,000	122,470,000	73,337,000
Cured Beef*	13,250,000	13,874,000	7,984,000	13,983,000
Lamb and Mutton, Frozen	31,074,000	23,207,000	26,462,000	8,936,000
Frozen Pork	131,172,000	105,050,000	85,341,000	93,216,000
Dry Salt Pork*	66,571,000	94,240,000	55,464,000	49,655,000
Pickled Pork*	178,329,000	142,142,000	151,036,000	193,615,000
Meats, Miscellaneous	113,533,000	104,010,000	73,307,000	67,016,000
Lard	116,401,000	126,786,000	53,251,000	125,965,000
Rendered Pork Fat	16,831,000	30,377,000	4,183,000	
Frozen Poultry	197,382,000	140,230,000	193,263,000	154,205,000

NOTE: *Cured or in process of cure. †Previously included with lard. ‡Figures shown subject to revision. These holdings include stocks in both cold storage warehouses and meat packing-house plants. The FDA and FSIC held in cold storage outside of processors' hands 20,204,000 pounds of cured pork cuts and 33,411,000 pounds of lard and rendered pork fat.

January, 1944

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Coli-Enteritidis Bacterin (for calf scours—prevention and treatment) per dose	.06
Brucella Abortus Vaccine, per dose	.35
Anti-Hog Cholera Serum, per 100 cc	1.00
Simultaneous Virus, per 100 cc	2.15
Anti-Swine Erysipelas Serum, per 100 cc	1.60

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ROUND THE RANGE

WESTERN LIVESTOCK AND RANGE REPORT

WESTERN CATTLE AND SHEEP generally maintained their good condition, with the generally fair to good supply of feed on ranges, the mild weather, and the full use of range and field feeds, according to the Dec. 1 report of the Denver Western Livestock Office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Limited dry areas reported poor feed, however.

The report is summarized by states as follows:

North Dakota.—Ranges and pastures good; mild, open November permitted full use of range and field feeds; hay and grain plentiful; livestock in good condition.

South Dakota (western).—Range feed good but dry; other feeds generally ample but concentrates not meeting demand; some stock water shortage; stock in good condition.

Montana.—Range feed generally good and short only in limited areas; weather permitted full use of range and feeds; stock in good condition.

Wyoming.—Range feed fair to good and generally dry; feed short in some central and south-central areas; moisture needed to soften feed and supply stock water; hay and other feeds not too plentiful in some sections; concentrates needed; stock good to very good.

Nebraska (western).—Range feed generally good but dry; soil moisture short; large hay carryover in Sandhills; feed in other areas not so favorable; stock in very good condition.

Kansas (western).—Feed generally sufficient for winter; cattle using well cured pasture feed, row crops and limited wheat pasture in south-central and southwest.

Colorado.—Grazing improved; range, pasture, meadows and field feeds fully utilized and forage supplies conserved; feed grains, hay, and other roughages below last year; stock good.

Oklahoma.—Ranges and pastures dry and short; decided shortage of moisture and of stock water; hay and other feeds very short; serious shortage of high protein; cattle fair and will be unable to withstand severe weather on limited feed; cattle marketings heavy.

Texas.—Range and pasture feeds fair to good; dry short feed in much of western, northern and central areas; range feed good in south and east; feed for winter not too plentiful in central, northern and western parts and concentrates needed; cattle generally fair to good, with some shrinkage; sheep not in so good flesh as year ago.

New Mexico.—Range dry and short; soil moisture and stock water short; late November rains helped; locally grown

feeds short and concentrates hard to get; cattle fair to good; marketings delayed; sheep held up well.

Idaho.—Range feed fair to good; grazing improved by October rains but too late to make new feed; stock good; feed adequate in most areas if winter not severe; range, pasture and field feeds fully used.

Washington.—Range feed and grazing improved; some new grass in lower areas and old grass softened; hay below demand but grain plentiful; weather permitted free use of feeds; stock good.

Oregon.—Range feed made good growth at lower elevations and old grass softened; ranges, pastures and fields fully used; hay and grain not too plentiful but adequate if winter not severe; stock good.

Utah.—Range fair to good; short growth on desert ranges; rain and snow gave much needed moisture and stock water; hay and feeds ample in some areas but limited in others; stock good; weather permitted use of ranges, pastures and fields.

Nevada.—Range feed generally good and grazing improved; late November snow called for some feeding; stock good.

Arizona.—Range feed dry and short in many areas; some stock water shortages; feed and water short in north; cattle fair to good; light demand for cattle, particularly cows; early lambing favorable but desert feed limited.

California.—Little new feed on ranges and considerable apprehension in view of numbers of stock; stock lost condition but still nearly average; cattle replacements increased but below usual level; alfalfa pasture feeding in Imperial Valley at capacity.

The reported condition of sheep and lambs on Dec. 1, 1943, was 85 per cent compared with 85 per cent last month, 87 per cent a year ago, and the 20-year (1932-42) average of 88 per cent.

Condition of ranges and cattle as of Dec. 1, with comparisons, follows:

State	RANGES				CATTLE			
	Dec. 1943	Nov. 1943	Dec. 1942	20-Year Av. 1932-42	Dec. 1943	Nov. 1943	Dec. 1942	20-Year Av. 1932-42
North Dakota.....	83	84	85	76	87	88	88	85
South Dakota.....	86	85	88	79	88	90	90	86
Montana.....	87	87	90	83	90	91	93	92
Wyoming.....	80	78	84	82	86	86	89	89
Nebraska (western).....	84	84	88	82	88	89	90	89
Kansas (western).....	75	73	88	72	84	84	92	86
Colorado.....	82	81	85	82	87	87	90	89
Oklahoma.....	65	67	82	73	74	75	85	81
Texas.....	73	77	86	79	78	81	86	82
New Mexico.....	78	76	89	83	83	83	90	88
Idaho.....	85	81	79	83	89	87	87	89
Washington.....	83	77	78	82	84	84	84	87
Oregon.....	81	77	77	83	84	84	83	87
Utah.....	80	80	82	82	89	89	89	89
Nevada.....	86	86	84	85	91	91	90	89
Arizona.....	79	82	70	79	83	84	77	84
California.....	74	81	79	74	84	86	87	84
Average Western Range States (weighted).....	78	79	84	79	83	84	87	85

Equivalent of reported conditions: 49 or below is very bad; 50-59, bad; 60-69, poor; 70-79, fair; 80-89, good; 90-99, very good; 100 and over is excellent, unusual.

WEATHER ADVISORIES

STOCKMEN IN COLORADO, WYOMING, western Nebraska, and western Kansas can now get up-to-the-minute advisories of expected weather conditions between 6:00 and 6:30 a. m. every morning except Sunday, we are informed by Albert W. Cook, supervising forecaster at the Weather Bureau airport office in Denver. The broadcasts will be carried by stations KLZ and KOA.

The plan for sending out this data was developed after conferences between Executive Secretary F. E. Mollin of the American National Live Stock Association and representatives from the radio stations and the Weather Bureau offices at Kansas City. The advisories, Mr. Cook declared, will cover the period "today, tonight, and tomorrow" (roughly, three 12-hour periods), and will be worded to avoid the cryptic language of the formal forecasts. They are planned, not to take the place of those forecasts, but to supplement them. Regular forecasts will still be carried by both stations during the farm program as well as several other times through the day. The advisories will be designed especially for ranchers, to encourage them to listen daily, in good and bad weather, so that predictions of bad weather will not be missed.

Warnings will be included in the advisories whenever severe weather conditions are indicated.

The Weather Bureau believes this program will be much more effective than previous systems of issuing warnings only for broadcast. Periods between warnings were often so prolonged that ranchers became careless about listening and often missed them entirely. With the scheduled daily advisories, ranchers can receive up-to-date information, whether the weather is good or bad.

NEW POISON WEED

THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF FARM and Home Science, quarterly publication of the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station, carries an article by Arthur H. Holmgren which describes a new and poisonous weed that is appearing on ranges of three western states—Utah, Nevada, and Wyoming. The weed, known botanically as *Halogeton glomeratus* but not as yet possessing a common name, emanated from Siberia and is, in fact, much like the Russian thistle in appearance.

The first record of this new weed, a prolific seed producer which is poisonous to sheep and which is spreading rapidly through western ranges, was made by a member of the Forest Service at Wells, Nev., in August, 1935. It was evidently for some time thereafter confined largely to about a 25-mile radius around the vicinity of Wells.

Though often mistaken for Russian thistle by livestock men, there are sev-

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

eral distinct differences: The leaves in both halogeton and Russian thistle are round in cross sections, but in halogeton the leaves end abruptly in a sharp hair-like point while those of the Russian thistle taper gradually to a sharp point; the flowers of halogeton are without the three bracts which together with the leaves make the thistle so unpleasant to the touch; in spring halogeton has a bluish color, while the thistle is green; as the season progresses halogeton usually turns more or less reddish, while the thistle becomes purplish.

Halogeton is a member of the goose-foot family which also includes such familiar plants as sugar beets, white sage, greasewood, and the Russian thistle; and it is reasonable to believe that halogeton would be well adapted to desert conditions and generally tolerant of considerable amounts of alkali, although it is highly adaptable to different types of soil, being found in bottom lands to areas well up into the aspen of our higher mountains. The weed will not crowd out good stands of native forage plants and good range management practices are the best antidote.

LAST CROP REPORT

The final government crop report of the year said that results were all that were expected—6 per cent below the record year of 1942, but still 5 per cent better than any previous year. Estimates are that the corn crop will be 3,076,159,000 bushels, second largest on record, compared with last year's 3,131,518,000 bushels, and 727,000,000 bushels more than the 1932-41 average. Wheat production is estimated at 836,298,000 bushels, nearly 100,000,000 bushels more than the 1932-41 average. This included 529,606,000 bushels of winter wheat and 306,692,000 bushels of spring wheat. Production of oats totaled 1,143,867,000 bushels, 200,000,000 bushels under last year, but 125,000,000 bushels above the 1932-41 average. Other grains included 322,187,000 bushels of barley, compared with 429,167,000 bushels last year; 30,718,000 bushels of rye, compared with 57,673,000 bushels last year. Sorghums for grain totaled 103,168,000 bushels compared with 106,770,000 bushels last year, and rice totaled 70,025,000 bushels, compared with 64,549,000 bushels last year.

THE TRANSPORTATION PICTURE

The railroad picture for 1944 stacks up like this, says the *United Press*:

Freight: The Office of Defense Transportation anticipates a 3 to 6 per cent increase over 1943. While this will be the smallest percentage increase of the war, officials point out that it comes on top of an expected over-all 1943 increase of 15 per cent in terms of miles, and a 35 per cent increase in 1942, the first year of war.

Passengers: Conservative government figures estimate that travel in 1943 will total 80,000,000,000 miles. An increase of 15 per cent is expected in 1944, and it will be greater if the tire situation gets worse. Twelve hundred troop sleepers are being built but it won't relieve civilian conditions much because railroad Pullmans were supplying only about 65 per cent of army needs, anyway. An unestimated number of coaches will be withdrawn from active service during the year, and cannot be replaced.

Trucks: ODT Director Eastman warns that the truck transportation system will be faced with serious equipment shortage in 1944. Approval has been given to production of 123,000 new commercial vehicles for the coming year, but only 80,000 will be for civilian use. This 80,000 compares with normal pre-war replacement production of 450,000 vehicles annually. The bulk of the 80,000 are scheduled for delivery during the latter half of 1944.

POST-WAR BREED MARKET

In addressing the annual meeting of the American Society of Animal Production in Chicago last month, Dr. O. E. Reed, chief of the Bureau of Dairy Industry, discouraged the expectation of great livestock demands from European countries in the post-war years. Dr. Reed based his declarations on the fact that most of those countries that plan to import breeding stock will want the breeds already in use there. He also suggested that the rehabilitation of their herds and flocks will be primarily a matter of encouraging the natural increase in numbers as soon as available, and relief by overseas imports will not be of great volume.

TICK MENACE FADING

On December 1 about 4,250 square miles of territory in Florida and Texas won release from federal quarantine. The United States thus approached virtual freedom from cattle ticks, a pest that has caused annual losses up to \$50,000,000. The area involved includes Collier and Hendry counties in Florida, and parts of eight counties along the Rio Grande River in Texas, extending from Del Rio in Val Verde County about 400 miles southeastward to the Gulf of Mexico.

EUROPEAN MEAT SHORTAGE

The chairman of the Smithfield and Argentine Meat Co., Ltd., has cited, at a meeting in London, a report made by agricultural experts showing the estimated decline of livestock in occupied countries to number 11,000,000 cattle, 11,000,000 sheep, 12,000,000 pigs, and 3,000,000 horses. The figures were taken to indicate a growing meat shortage in the world, which may be expected to continue for a number of years.

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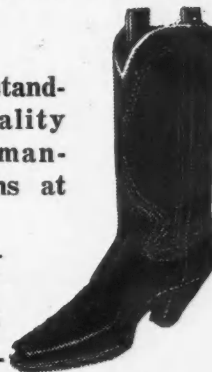
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CHICAGO MARKET FAT STOCK AND CARLOT COMPETITION

A QUIET-SPOKEN, SLIGHT YOUNG MAN named T. Richard Lacy, Jr., came from a farm at Kansas, Ill., to win for the second successive year highest honors for a Hereford steer he had raised, in the Chicago Market Fat Stock Show. The prize steer weighed 1,020 pounds and brought young Lacy \$4 a pound to a total of \$4,080, placing the price third high in the history of the show, and bringing the boy's income for his stock-raising activities in the past four years over the \$25,000 mark. This is the second time his entry has won both the junior and grand championships and the third successive time he has won the highest prize, since he took the junior crown in 1941. This year his prize-winning animal, T. O. Monogram, outshone 554 other Herefords, Aberdeen-Angus, and Shorthorns to win.

A price average of \$17.85 was gleaned from 44 loads of cattle in the carlot division, as against \$17.33 for 53 loads in the show last year. Cattle of the grand champion carlot topped at \$35, compared with \$20.50 in 1942, and the remainder tapered down to \$17 and \$18 this year. Of the 44 loads, 20 were Herefords, 18 Angus, and 6 Shorthorns. Prize winners for 1943 showed an average weight of 910 pounds. Twenty loads scaled below 1,050 pounds and averaged \$18.34; 17 loads in the 1,050-to-1,150-pound weight group averaged \$17.39; and seven loads weighing above 1,150 pounds averaged \$17.57.

Nine loads of feeder calves sold at an average price of \$16.14, compared with an average of \$16.70 for 18 loads in 1942. The top carload of steer calves brought \$20 and weighed 370 pounds. They were exhibited by Dan Casement, of Manhattan, Kan. The display included a load of heifer calves that brought \$17.

Helicopters for Ranches

Idaho's Senator John Thomas has received an appeal from a stockman who desires to obtain a helicopter at this time to aid in ridding his ranch of coyotes. Light planes have been used with some measure of success for this purpose, but such a practice calls for considerable daring on the part of the pilot and unerring accuracy on the part of the gunner. The helicopter, on the other hand, with its ability to go up or down vertically, travel at even the slowest speeds, and to hover over a given point, is more suitable for the purpose. Interest has been evinced also by advertisers and manufacturers with an eye to possibilities of using helicopters for varied ranch purposes after the war. They have already begun to make practical exploration of such possibilities.

ON THE SIDE

DOUBLE-FEATURE GRASS: A newspaper report from India claims that experiments have been conducted with a grass which, while it affords good livestock pasturage, also has the added attraction of driving away mosquitoes, insects, and snakes by means of an oily substance which it exudes and which in turn gives off a strong but pleasant odor to keep away the pests. The Queensland government botanist believes this to be molasses grass, said to be common in portions of North Queensland, and which made its appearance 30 or 40 years ago under the somewhat uncomplimentary name of Brazilian "stink" grass.

RABBITS TO THE RESCUE: Seven million pounds of domestically-raised rabbit meat were consumed last year in Los Angeles, which city is considered the rabbit capital of America. According to the *National Provisioner*, rabbit meat has been an important food item in the West for over 25 years and has proved particularly valuable in relieving the war shortages of fresh meat on the Pacific Coast, where such shortages have been acute at times. No ration coupons are involved in the sale of rabbit meat.

JAPANESE PIPE-DREAM: The little yellow men are apparently not yet convinced that they won't be the ones to win this war, and they are still making magnificent plans for development of all the rich lands they think will be theirs. The Nipponese intend to establish institutions to train agricultural and commercial personnel. Better not plan too much there, boys! After the dream comes the awakening.

INALIENABLE RIGHT: It is going a bit too far to impound a ration book, merely because a man is in arrears on his alimony payments, said Circuit Judge Theodore J. Richter, of Detroit, in ordering the estranged wife to return the book. A man has an incontrovertible right to his "pork and beans, butter and cheese," the judge said.

PIG AHOY: One of the hogs that changed hands in the third war loan drive in a wager made by Nebraska's Governor Griswold with Governor O'Connor of Maryland was a 250-pounder, corn-fed, known as "Red Points." A hundred hungry sailors got the final benefits of the deal recently at a full-course dinner.

MULE OFFSPRING: A mule on a farm in Natal, S. A., recently gave birth to a foal, according to press dispatches from there. The farm favored with the unique offspring owns two other mules and a stallion.

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